



The Graduation of Jake Moon (Aladdin Fiction)

By Barbara Park

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HOW CAN YOU LOVE SOMEONE AND RESENT HIM AT THE SAME TIME?

Jake Moon used to love the time he spent with his grandfather, Skelly, but that was before Skelly got Alzheimer's disease. All of a sudden, it's as if Skelly is the kid, and Jake has to be the grown-up. Much of Skelly's care becomes Jake's responsibility, and that doesn't leave much time for a life of his own.

Then, one day Jake rebels, and the unthinkable happens. Has Jake discovered too late how much his grandfather still means to him?

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

PW gave a starred review to this "memorable" novel narrated by an eighth-grader whose beloved grandfather has Alzheimer's disease. Ages 9-12. (June)

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From School Library Journal

Grade 4-6-Three boys watch an old man teeter on the side of a dumpster. Two of them taunt him until he acknowledges them and they realize that he doesn't understand their insults. The third boy is Jake, the confused man's grandson. This short and moving novel deals with his relationship with his grandfather as Skelly's Alzheimer's slowly worsens. The youngster changes considerably from when readers meet him in third grade until his graduation from eighth grade. He starts out looking after his grandfather an hour a day, a job that becomes more and more onerous. He is embarrassed by Skelly's increasingly erratic behavior and becomes alienated from his friends. His relationships with his wealthy aunt and cousin are also strained because Jake feels that they are buying their way out of caregiving. Jake is a well-rounded and believable character surrounded by colorful and equally realistic supporting characters. His acceptance of Skelly's condition and the evolving relationships in his family signal a hopeful start to the next phase of his life. This novel demonstrates the horror of Alzheimer's disease, both to the afflicted person and to the loved ones, and it is written in an accessible style that will appeal to a wide audience.

Betsy Fraser, Calgary Public Library, Canada

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From the Inside Flap

Approx. 2 hours, 2 cassettes

Life hasn't been the same for Jake Moon since his grandfather Skelly was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. For one thing he can't invite friends over because Skelly might do something embarrassing like tell them to zipper their "briskets," or Jake might reach into the freezer for a can of frozen orange juice and find frozen pajamas instead. It's like all of a sudden he's the grown-up, and Skelly's the kid. How could one person you could always count on be fading away right before your eyes?

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Esther Price:

Book is usually written, printed, or created for everything. You can know everything you want by a reserve. Book has a different type. As you may know that book is important factor to bring us around the world. Beside that you can your reading expertise was fluently. A publication The Graduation of Jake Moon (Aladdin Fiction) will make you to become smarter. You can feel a lot more confidence if you can know about every thing. But some of you think which open or reading a new book make you bored. It is not make you fun. Why they can be thought like that? Have you trying to find best book or suited book with you?

Arthur Dickison:

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Karen Tullis:

Reading a book tends to be new life style within this era globalization. With studying you can get a lot of information that will give you benefit in your life. Along with book everyone in this world can share their idea. Publications can also inspire a lot of people. A great deal of author can inspire all their reader with their story or even their experience. Not only the storyplot that share in the books. But also they write about advantage about something that you need example of this. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your young ones, there are many kinds of book that exist now. The authors these days always try to improve their ability in writing, they also doing some exploration before they write to their book. One of them is this The Graduation of Jake Moon (Aladdin Fiction).

Yolanda Powers:

Playing with family in a very park, coming to see the ocean world or hanging out with good friends is thing that usually you have done when you have spare time, and then why you don't try factor that really opposite from that. 1 activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition of knowledge. Even you love The Graduation of Jake Moon (Aladdin Fiction), you may enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still would like to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh can happen its mind hangout people. What? Still don't have it, oh come on its named reading friends.

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