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Sorta Like A Rock Star



Synopsis

Amber Appleton lives in a bus. Ever since her mom's boyfriend kicked them out, Amber, her mom, and her totally loyal dog, Bobby Big Boy (aka Thrice B) have been camped out in the back of Hello Yellow (the school bus her mom drives). Still, Amber, the self-proclaimed princess of hope and girl of unyielding optimism, refuses to sweat the bad stuff. But when a fatal tragedy threatens Amber's optimism--and her way of life, can Amber continue to be the rock star of hope? With an oddball cast of characters, and a heartwarming, inspiring story, this novel unveils a beautifully beaten-up world of laughs, loyalty, and hard-earned hope. The world is Amber's stage, and Amber is, well...she's sorta like a rock star. True? True.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1030 (What's this?)

Paperback: 384 pages

Publisher: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers; Reprint edition (May 3, 2011)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 1 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (92 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #258,548 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #91 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Homelessness & Poverty](#) #147 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Depression & Mental Illness](#) #292 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Death & Dying](#)

Age Range: 12 - 17 years

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Sorta Like a Rock Star is definitely one of the more fun contemporaries I've read this year, in spite of the heavy issues alluded to in the summary. While it took a couple of chapters to get me settled in properly with this story, it was totally worth it in the end. True? True. Amber Appleton is a girl with unusual circumstances. She lives on a bus with her mother, takes showers and eats what she can at one of her best friend's houses, is part of a school organization with a bunch of oddball boys and volunteers at a local church and a senior center. With that much on her plate, you'd think that Amber

would collapse into a ball and die of exhaustion (physical or emotional), but the girl is a ball of energy, optimism and strength. She has an unusual way of thinking (which takes some getting used to), but it fits right in with who she is. But then, the great tragedy strikes. A tragedy that turns Amber's world upside down. It's almost as if a switch is flicked, and Amber becomes a robot. She goes through the motions, even as despair and doubt threaten to drown her. My heart completely broke for her, and it was no hardship to understand where her anger, sorrow and doubts were coming from. Her situation, as viewed through her eyes, is hopeless. And yet, as I've said before, *Sorta Like a Rock Star* is hopeful. How so, you might wonder, after reading the previous paragraph. Well, turns out that Amber has a great support system in her best friends, her favorite priest and the Korean ladies from church, her friends at the senior center and many, many more. Just seeing how much people were willing to reach out to Amber and help her in a time of need spoke volumes of her impact on them and their lives, and I loved that.

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