



My Best Year

William Hazelgrove

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Paul and Julie Clampet want their autistic son Toby to have a great senior year in high school. They want him to catch a winning touchdown, ride in the homecoming parade, and go to the homecoming dance. After being expelled from his high school they find a broken down school in Indiana where they hire the teachers and kids who conspire to give their son his best year ever. Funny, poignant, and a comment on the times we live in, My Best Year is up there with Perotta's Election for diagramming the heartbreak and triumph that is high school.

My Best Year Details

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From Reader Review My Best Year for online ebook

Bryony Nelson says

Toby is autistic and after getting expelled from high school, his parents become determined to make sure he gets the best senior year he could ever imagine. They want him to ride in the homecoming parade, go to the homecoming dance and catch the winning touchdown and try to achieve this by hiring a school, its teacher and its students, to make sure Toby gets his best year.

I really enjoyed the way this book was told. I liked having the different POV's for all of the characters because it really did help in setting the scene from every angle. I think Toby's character was depicted brilliantly in his scenes and the way he talks and acts is described, especially in the homecoming dance scenes.

The characters felt very real, especially Macy. I enjoyed seeing her adapt throughout the book as her POV showed the side of her that people wouldn't normally see. She is seen as the popular girl at school, dating the jock, but behind the scenes, she lives in a crappy apartment with her mum, who is a promiscuous looking broke waitress and who has an abusive and absent dad.

The only part I didn't like from this book was that I felt like there was too many POV's. I think Hazelgrove should have kept to the main characters of Toby, his parents, Macy, Randy and Coach and that is all. I think having the views from the headteacher of the school, the cop, Linda etc wasn't necessary.

All in all, this book had me laughing, angry, heartbroken but was also very heartwarming and opened my eyes to the world. I would give this a 4.5 and would definitely recommend it to other readers.

I received this book in exchange for an honest review.
