

## Review: Go Ask Alice by Anonymous

"I really am only one infinitely small part of an aching humanity" (Anonymous 134). "Go Ask Alice" is a first-person telling of a teenage girl's experience in the world of drug addiction. It is written so that the story is told through the protagonist's journal entries. She finds comfort in the journal as it is the only "person" she truly trusts. Throughout the story she is constantly battling her drug addiction and journey of self-destruction. The most troubling element of this story is she didn't willingly throw herself into the world of drugs. She was actually given a drink laced with LSD and became hooked. This book can be used as a good prevention tool for teaching teenagers about the world of addiction, as well as an educational tool for adults to see the lives and feelings of teenagers.

This book was eye-opening for me. Overall, the book was a quick and easy read. The journal entry writing style made me intrigued to learn what would happen the next day, so I kept finding myself saying "after this next entry I'll stop". I truly felt as though I was going through Alice's life with her. I have never struggled with drugs or a desire for drugs but I was able to empathize with Alice. The story was written in a way where I was able to relate her feelings and struggles to my own, despite the fact that we struggle with two different things. The only part of this book that left me a bit disappointed was the ending. We are led to believe that she was finally clean and happy until we turn the page and find out that she died of an overdose just 3 weeks later. I feel that the ending was very abrupt and came with no explanation. I would have liked it if so many pieces weren't left unturned at the end of this story.

By reading this story I now feel that I have a more open-minded outlook on other people's situations. You truly never know what someone has been through that took them to the point where they are. I also learned how forgiveness is important especially in families. I was so shocked that Alice's family would welcome her back after she had run away, but they did. If Alice's family could forgive her for what she had done, then I can definitely forgive certain people in my life who have done less bad things.

All in all, I would recommend this book to other people who are interested in learning about other people's life situations. Adults reading this book can see and remember the struggles that teenagers go through regarding body image, peer pressure, and constant fear of judgement. Teenagers reading this book can see how important it is to support their classmates and not let people feel left out or ignored. I also think that this story can lead to people empathizing more with other people who are struggling with addiction whether it be drugs or other things. As a society we need to come together to help make drug addiction less of a problem in the youth of America. Not only should we do it for us, but also for the future generations to come.

**By Kaitlyn**