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32 candles book review

32 candles summary. 32 candles book.

Davie Jones's life is as bleak as the small-town Mississippi where she grew up. Her mother is as cruel as ever, leaving Davie feeling hopeless about her future. However, everything changes when she discovers *Sixteen Candles*, which sparks a sense of longing in her. Despite being a loner in school and having an unrequited crush on a football player, Davie finds solace in the world of Hollywood's glamorous nightlife as a lounge singer. But just as she thinks she's found success, her past comes back to haunt her, threatening to ruin everything. As I embarked on reading "32 Candles" by Ernesta T. Carter, I couldn't help but notice the birthday-themed title and felt a sudden urge to dive in on my actual birthday. The book's promise of a black heroine, Davidia, and her relatable struggles resonated deeply with me. Initially, the story unfolded with a somber tone, as we learned about Davidia's tumultuous childhood, marked by abuse and isolation. However, things took a turn when she started to find solace in her love for the popular guy in school and her connection to Molly Ringwald's movies. It was poignant to see how Davidia's worldview was shaped by these films, despite being isolated with no friends or support system. The concept of a "Molly Ringwald ending" - where people overcome their differences to be together - became a recurring theme. The book also delved into important issues like colorism and hair texture, which are essential to understanding the black female experience. I was thoroughly entertained by the well-written, thought-provoking, and humorous narrative. The story taught me valuable lessons about human behavior and left me with a greater appreciation for diversity in literature. Search for a book that would lift my spirits and I stumbled upon "32 Candles" once again. This time, I was looking for something that would make me laugh and maybe even cry a little. The stress and negativity in life had really gotten to me. As I browsed through my books, the bright dust jacket of "32 Candles" caught my eye. Little did I know that this book would surprise me with its ability to leave me speechless when I finished reading it. The author, Ms. Carter, truly gave it her all in writing this novel. She tackled tough topics and presented them in a way that made them feel approachable and open for discussion. The characters in the story were well-developed and relatable, with each one serving a purpose in advancing the plot. While there might have been some predictable elements to the story, I still felt like I gained something by reading it. I would definitely recommend taking a chance on "32 Candles". You won't be disappointed. It's not always necessary for a book to shake up our world; sometimes it just needs to make us smile. In my case, this book did exactly that and has taken its place in my heart as one of my favorites. I was reminded why we need more books like "32 Candles" that deal with serious issues but are also light-hearted and funny. These kinds of books have the power to make a difference by making people care. The protagonist, Davidia/Davie Jones, is someone I would love to meet in real life - smart, funny, sweet, and sharp. Watching her grow from a sad little girl into a strong adult was an experience I thoroughly enjoyed. Reading "32 Candles" was like going on a fun ride. It made me laugh out loud, cringe at certain moments, and even cry a little. The best part? I didn't want it to end. This book has left a lasting impression on me, and I'm grateful for that. I've found a novel that truly resonates with me, despite my general disdain for romantic comedies. While I had some reservations about 32 Candles, its unique charm and je ne sais quoi won me over. The story follows Davie, a young girl from an impoverished background who has been subjected to abuse and silence. Despite her circumstances, she finds solace in music and eventually becomes a singer in Los Angeles. I was disappointed by the novel's handling of certain themes, but ultimately, its flaws were forgivable due to its captivating narrative. Davie-James comparisons are tempting, given the contrast between Davie's seemingly carefree existence and her dense unawareness of social norms. However, it is unclear why her character would remain so oblivious to these aspects despite idolizing popular figures like Molly Ringwald. The author's frustration with Davie grows as she struggles to express herself or develop a genuine relationship with James. The narrative's abrupt twist reveals that Davie's past is marked by stalking and attempts to ruin James' life, leaving the reader bewildered. This revelation raises questions about the nature of obsession and how it can manifest in extreme behavior. The introduction of this plot point comes too late for emotional investment, as Davie's character has become increasingly erratic throughout the story. The author notes that her actions are illogical and unacceptable, feeling both "weirded out" and "disgusted." A later revelation about Davie's family history does little to illuminate her behavior or provide a clear explanation for her past actions. Instead, it adds more complexity and raises questions about the validity of her claims. Ultimately, the novel suggests that Davie seeks redemption by playing cupid and helping others find love. This development feels unearned and lacks emotional resonance due to Davie's troubled history. The kind of woman I want fixing my life is a bit of a stretch, but when James shows up in Davie's life asking for a wild favor and some heavy secrets, I'm thinking he's lost his mind - not that she's finally getting her happy ending, by page 50, I was fully invested in davie's story and couldn't wait to see how things played out. the revenge plot was satisfying, but it was even more impactful when she got the closure she deserved. overall, this book has become a fast favorite of mine. feeling ugly is a universal experience that transcends ethnicity, but for Davie, it's a harsh reality that's been ingrained in her since childhood. as a black girl growing up poor, she's constantly reminded of her appearance and that it's not good enough. ervaessa carter's debut novel hits close to home with its portrayal of colorism and the devastating effects it has on one's self-image. the narrator is raw, honest, and unapologetic - i was fully immersed in davie's thoughts and experiences, even when they were difficult to read. her brutal truths are a punch to the gut, but also a much-needed wake-up call. this novel doesn't shy away from uncomfortable situations, making it all the more impactful. Davie's journey is a heart-wrenching tale of resilience and redemption, forcing readers to confront the harsh realities of life. Her struggles with poverty, self-acceptance, and loneliness are deeply relatable, making it impossible to look away from her story. As Davie hits rock bottom, she finds a sense of liberation in shedding the weight of societal expectations and embracing her true worth. The author's writing effectively conveys the complexity of human emotions, particularly through Davie's transformative experiences. The supporting characters are multidimensional and add depth to the narrative, showcasing Davie's unique relationships with each of them. One notable exception is James, whose character remains somewhat enigmatic, reflecting the biased views people often hold towards their crushes. The novel's portrayal of atonement and selflessness is particularly noteworthy, as Davie takes responsibility for her past actions and offers targeted support to those she has hurt. This aspect of the story showcases Davie's growth and strength, making it a compelling and emotionally resonant experience for readers. Reading about Davie's journey made me feel more confident in my own life. The author did an amazing job of making me love this book, and now I'm going to force it on all my friends and family. The main character, Davidia, reminded me of Molly Ringwald movies from the 80s. At first, she was just a weird kid who liked those movies as an escape from her tough childhood. But then she started her new life in LA, trying to leave her past behind and find her own happy ending. As I kept reading, I found myself getting attached to Davidia's story, even when it got a little crazy. She had some tough times growing up, especially with people picking on her, but she finally took control of her life and made something better happen. The author does a great job of showing how far she came from being a kid who didn't talk for six years to becoming someone strong and confident. I'm not going to give away too much, but let's just say that Davie's story is full of ups and downs, with some parts feeling like they're right out of a fairytale. But it's also real life, with its challenges and sometimes tough choices. The author does an amazing job of keeping you interested from start to finish, making you feel like you're right there with Davie as she navigates her way through high school and beyond. Overall, I loved this book and couldn't put it down once I started reading it. It's a story that will make you laugh, cry, and maybe even think about your own life in a different way. Honestly, this book was a wild ride! It's not perfect, but it's enjoyable and entertaining. The story's got drama, humor, and unexpected twists. Davidia's unique narration adds to the charm. If you can suspend your disbelief, you'll have fun. However, after the 50% mark, my enthusiasm declined due to certain characters' lack of development. I didn't like some things: Davidia not seeking therapy, her underqualification for a job, and the weird dynamic between Nicky and Davidia. It felt too easy at times, lacking depth. But, I liked Nicky's character and felt he was done injustice by being put in that position. Overall, it's an enjoyable read, but flawed. The first half is phenomenal, while the second half is still entertaining but less great. Davie Jones, a young girl with a difficult upbringing in a predominantly black school in Mississippi, finds solace in the bright lights of Hollywood after watching the movie 16 Candles. She dreams of escaping her tormentors and finding acceptance and love. This relatable tale follows Davie's journey as she navigates her way through life, trying to take back control and find her place. Similar to characters like Bridget Jones or Stella, Davie is a sassy and determined individual who causes quite the stir in those around her. Will she find her "Molly Ringwald" happy ending? The book offers an entertaining and heartwarming read, with a deep exploration of love and self-discovery. Davie believed that secrets were just that - hidden truths. However, the harsh reality had the potential to devastate numerous lives and relationships. If exposed, Davie herself could lose everything, including her past, present, and future. This book is an ideal fit for a mature adult audience seeking a romance novel with a touch of drama. The writing style is solid, making it easy to become invested in the characters. The story stands alone as a great novel, although I found some parts to be too explicit at times. Despite this, the book was engaging and fun to read. I gave it 3.5 out of 5 stars and highly recommend it for those looking for an uplifting tale with unexpected twists. I usually spend my free time reading during my commute, which allows me to get in about 10 hours of reading each week. When I'm home, I often watch TV or browse the internet, making it rare for me to pick up a book. However, I was so captivated by "32 Candles" that I forgot to turn off the TV and missed my usual bedtime both nights. The story follows Davie, a modern-day Celie who grows up in a small Mississippi town. She's invisible to those around her due to her appearance and social status. After a traumatic event, she runs away to Los Angeles, where she reinvents herself as a lounge singer. Years later, she encounters James Farrell, the guy from her past. Will her dream of finding true love come true or will he still see her as "Monkey Night"? This book is one of the funniest and smartest I've read in a long time. Ernesta T. Carter has created an iconic character in Davie, who you'll find yourself rooting for from start to finish. But don't get too comfortable - she's got some tricks up her sleeve! This is definitely on my favorites list this year. i recently read 32 candles, a romantic novel that left me feeling quite invigorated, finishing it at a swift pace with immense enthusiasm. given my limited expertise in the genre, i believe my review should be approached with some nuance. upon reading other reviews on goodreads, i noticed that opinions on this book were incredibly diverse, with some readers adoring its quick-witted charm and others being appalled by protagonist davie's unpleasant demeanor. despite the story's implausibility - a trait inherent to romantic novels - i found 32 candles to be remarkably clever in its deliberate subversion of traditional romance tropes. one aspect that truly stood out was the novel's predominantly black cast, which allowed author EC to subtly yet effectively explore the complexities of race and identity in los angeles. the book's portrayal of a multicultural city with deep-seated caste systems - despite economic integration - felt refreshingly nuanced. ec's approach was both humorous and insightful, particularly in her depiction of the farrells' financial empire built on hair care products for black people. while some readers might find davie's character unpleasant, i believe it's essential to acknowledge that hurt individuals can indeed be nasty, and that even good people can occasionally exhibit negative traits. overall, 32 candles left me with a lasting impression of its cleverness and the author's ability to tackle sensitive topics with a light touch and great humor. being real means being all-encompassing, with both good and bad qualities. Like Nicky, who can be both kind and nasty, life is full of complexities. Given what Davie's been through, she seems like a model of sanity compared to others. EC's novel does an amazing job of tracing the fault lines of her past with delicacy, humor, and subtlety (yes, it's funny!). Davie's smart, good, and occasionally nasty, which makes the romantic adventures with James interesting, but maybe not as captivating as the themes of race, trauma, and the reorganization of the plot. If you enjoy romantic stories, this book is a great choice because it's well-written and sweet. If you're interested in this novel marked down to \$1.99 today (February 2nd, 2019), now might be your chance. I'm not a fan of John Hughes movies, but I can understand their appeal. Davie Jones just wants her own Molly Ringwald ending, like in her favorite movie, "16 Candles." She finds her Jake Ryan in James, but this book has layers beyond that, touching on concepts of beauty, self-loathing, abuse, class divides, and choosing your own family. This story isn't easy to get into at the beginning, much like 16 Candles. Davie's life is in shambles because of her past trauma with an abusive mother, making it hard for her to speak up. James is kind but his approach can be seen as entitled and persistent, which might be a bit too much for some readers. The meat of the romance between Davie and James is what makes this novel worthwhile, especially if you enjoy grounded love stories. Just remember, life isn't always straightforward or pretty, and sometimes we have to face our past mistakes head-on. This novel is a heart-wrenching yet uplifting tale of redemption and self-discovery, told through David Jones' poignant journey. With its dark humor and insightful social commentary, the story masterfully balances lighthearted moments with heavy emotional weight. As Davidia navigates her troubled past and present, she finds herself drawn to James, a love interest who has been a constant presence in her life. Throughout the narrative, secondary characters add depth and complexity, their flaws and imperfections making them relatable and endearing. The author's bold exploration of themes such as loyalty, luck, and love creates a compelling narrative that is both authentic and engaging. The writing style is noteworthy, with an 80s-inspired feel that pays homage to John Hughes' classic movies. The novel's structure, which seamlessly shifts between past and present, keeps the reader invested in Davidia's story. With its well-developed characters and poignant storytelling, this book is a powerful exploration of the human spirit, one that will stay with readers long after finishing the last page. Davie's transformation from an "ugly duckling" child to a beautiful singer swan is marred by awkward character development and an uneven narrative balance. The story, which starts as a romance with some steamy scenes, takes a difficult turn with revelations reminiscent of Celie in *The Color Purple* and Precious in *Push*. The shift from the ugly duckling to the swan is jarring, with no clear indication of how this change occurs. Additionally, certain plot points, such as high school mean girls-turned-crazy stalkers, feel forced and out of place. While the character development is lacking, some aspects of the story appeal, including the emotional and physical rags-to-riches narrative and numerous 80s and 90s references. Readers are left disappointed due to the predictability of the storyline towards its end, feeling rushed and thrown together. Ultimately, the book's inconsistencies and poor character development make it a difficult read. When nothing is given to you, it's hard to get hurt. But that all changes when the Farrell family moves in and Davie starts dreaming of having someone unattainable. She's inspired by Molly Ringwald movies from the 80s, thinking that sometimes strange girls can win at love. The Farrell kids shake up Davie's high school with their money, class perceptions, and big city sophistication. Their dad owns a hair care business and has political ambitions. Despite facing targeted cruelty, Davie refuses to suffer in silence. When she runs away, it's both brave and reckless, but turns out to be the best thing for her. On the other side, she finds a self-made family, hidden talents, and a new sense of herself. Carter creates relatable characters and an entertaining story. 32 Candles is perfect women's fiction. While it starts with Davie being young, it doesn't feel like YA or NA. It has angst and unrequited love, but no cringeworthy moments. The best part is when Davie's not as submissive and forgiving as she seems, and gets her revenge in unexpected ways. This takes an interesting look at a young woman who can't help accepting "invitations to crazy." When Ms. Carter's protagonist is at her lowest, she becomes lovable and relatable. The author's plot twists kept me engaged, especially when they surprised me with a chronological twist reminiscent of Tarantino's style. As the story unfolds, crucial revelations about Davie's relationships and life are revealed. Her obsession with Molly Ringwald resonates throughout, as it connects her desire for a happy ending to our own human desires. I laughed, cried, and cheered until the end, which culminated in a satisfying John Hughes-inspired finale. Although I held back half a star because I selfishly wanted more, this is a must-read for 2019. I was blindsided when Davie's story suddenly took a sharp turn into a zany romantic comedy. Gone were the depth, complexity, and intensity that had me hooked at the beginning. I felt like I was reading two different books - one serious and one light-hearted. The shift left me wondering why the author made this drastic change. It was jarring and disjointed, making it hard for me to keep going. I compare 32 CANDLES to mixing my favorite buttercream pecan gelato with guacamole - a weird combination that didn't work for me. Despite this, I appreciate the author's writing style and would read another book by her. Maybe next time she'll deliver a more consistent execution. Before reading 32 CANDLES, I had heard rave reviews from bloggers who loved this book. It exceeded my expectations, becoming one of my favorite books of 2011 and an adorable read. The star is Davie Jones, a neurotic but lovable protagonist who stands out from typical romantic comedy characters. Davie's character is relatable without being overwhelming. Her obsession with James adds a layer of complexity to her personality. The romantic interest, James, is perfect in his imperfection, making him a believable and likable character. Other reasons I enjoyed 32 CANDLES include the well-developed secondary characters and a twisty plot that wraps up nicely. The reviewer had mixed feelings about the book "32 Candles" by Ernesta Carter. While they found it predictable and cheesy at times, they ultimately enjoyed its romantic comedy elements and the strong themes presented, such as love, mental health, and healing. The reviewer appreciated how the author tackled difficult topics in a heartfelt yet routine manner. They also commended the memorable characters and quotes, giving the book a 5-star rating despite some criticisms. A high-powered ad exec, Angie, and her husband Conlan, a reporter, had planned to adopt a baby from a teenage pregnancy. However, the birth mother changed her mind, leading to their relationship drifting apart as they realized they no longer loved each other. Angie finds solace in working at her family's struggling restaurant, where she clashes with her mother over updates and staff changes. There, she befriends Lauren, a young girl desperate for a job and eager to learn. Unbeknownst to Angie, Lauren comes from a troubled home, but the two quickly form a bond as they engage in witty banter and arguments, showcasing a different dynamic than Lauren's toxic relationship with her mother. As their connection deepens, Angie offers support, but things take an unexpected turn when Lauren reveals she is pregnant. With their lives intersecting, Angie must confront her own desires for motherhood and the complexities of family relationships. The story concludes on a heartfelt yet somewhat predictable note.