

Great Big Beautiful Life

Emily Henry

Reviewed by: Nithya, 17

Star Teen Book Reviewer of Be the Star You Are! Charity

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Alice Scott has built her life around believing in love stories with grand gestures, happy endings, and meaning woven into every moment. So when she lands the opportunity of a lifetime to write the biography of the glamorous Margaret Ives, she knows this could be the story that finally defines her career. What she doesn't expect is to be competing for the job against Hayden Anderson, a Pulitzer-winning writer. As the two are sent to a picturesque coastal town to uncover Margaret's carefully guarded past, professional rivalry slowly turns into something far more complicated. But beneath the charm, ambition, and undeniable chemistry lies a history full of secrets, heartbreak, and choices that shaped a great big beautiful life, one that may change the way Alice understands love, storytelling, and herself forever.

Emily Henry has always been one of my favorite authors, and this book just emphasized that for me! *Great Big Beautiful Life* was a romance novel that, though centered around a love story, explored life itself in various facets through complex family relationships, self growth, and friendship. Not only that, every character portrayed was emotionally complicated, each carrying their own individual history, flaws, and motivations. Henry has the great talent of being able to balance humor and heartbreak, creating moments that made me laugh out loud and others lingering long after I finish reading. The book was truly an all around great read for any reader!

I would recommend this book for teens (13+). There is moderate usage of explicit language to be cautious of. There are multiple scenes with sexual content that are moderately explicit. There is no mention of violence other than some minor scenes with blood and crowd trampling.

Recommended Titles

Book Lovers by Emily Henry

Malibu Rising by Taylor Jenkins Reid

The Hating Game by Sally Thorne

Beach Read by Emily Henry