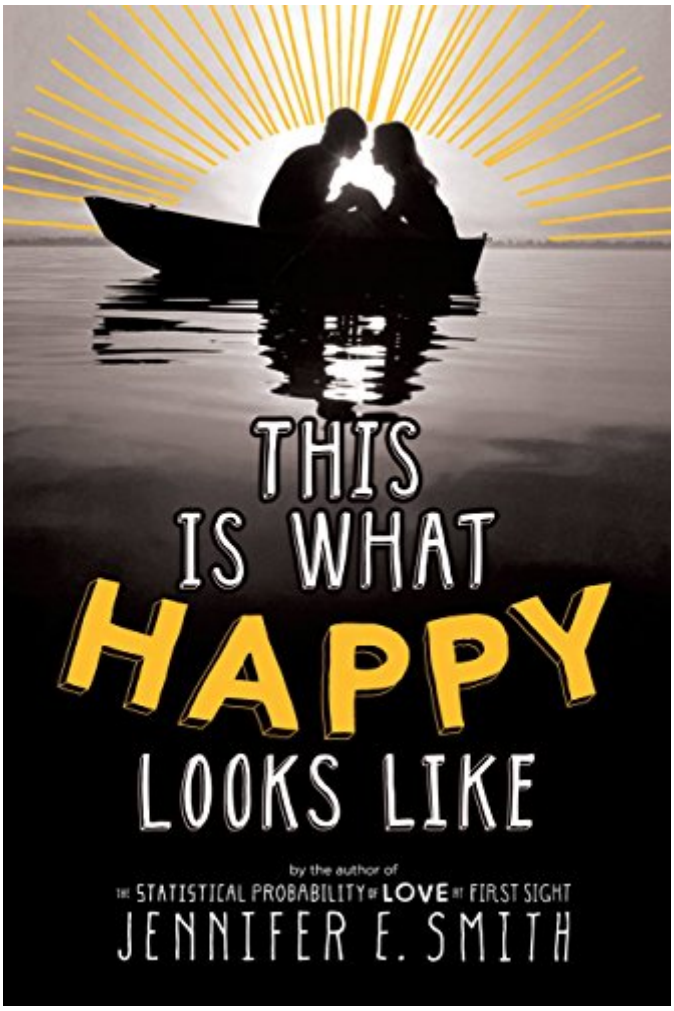
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This Is What Happy Looks Like



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Synopsis

If fate sent you an email, would you answer?When teenage movie star Graham Larkin accidentally sends small town girl Ellie O'Neill an email about his pet pig, the two seventeen-year-olds strike up a witty and unforgettable correspondence, discussing everything under the sun, except for their names or backgrounds. Then Graham finds out that Ellie's Maine hometown is the perfect location for his latest film, and he decides to take their relationship from online to in-person. But can a star as famous as Graham really start a relationship with an ordinary girl like Ellie? And why does Ellie want to avoid the media's spotlight at all costs?

Book Information

File Size: 2223 KB

Print Length: 366 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 0545688124

Publisher: Poppy (April 2, 2013)

Publication Date: April 2, 2013

Language: English

ASIN: B008TURMOA

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #167,088 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #24 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Performing Arts > Film #75 inÃ Â Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Teen & Young Adult > Literature & Fiction > Art & Music #272 inÃ Â Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Teen & Young Adult > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Dating & Sex

Customer Reviews

This was originally posted in my blog:[...]Ellie OÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢Neill is a typical teenager living in a typical ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“middle-of-nowhereÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• small town in Maine. On a very typical day, shortly before the summer after her Junior year of high school, she receives an email from a boy from a ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“middle-of-everythingÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• town in California named Graham

Larkin. The email was sent to her by mistake, but sometimes a mistake ends up being someoneÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s destiny and fate. This boy just happens to be a huge movie star, but Ellie is not aware of this little detail of his life because they never exchange names. The two end up hitting it off, and emailing back and forth for months. Then summer rolls along, and Graham ends up shooting a movie in her little town in Maine, and just like that, their love story begins.This book is what happy looks like. It was an enjoyable before bedtime read that I didnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t want to put down, even when my eyes were starting to feel weighted. There are a few things that disturbed be about the book, that I couldnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t get over:1. I didnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t like how Ellie just accepted the fact that Graham decided to shoot a movie in Maine, even though he had never met Ellie, in person. This wasnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t a coincidence (I think the book would have been better if it was.) Graham saw an opportunity to suggest Maine as the location, and when it came through, I donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t think he thought about how creepy that actually was. If I was chatting with someone online, and then they just showed up at my doorstep, I think I would be a little more upset than Ellie was. I guess since he was a movie star, and not a serial killer, it was okay, but you never know. This is why they teach kids not to talk to strangers online. It doesnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t always work out happily-ever-after. Sometimes happy doesnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t look like this, it looks like the next big Lifetime movie.2. I didnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t like the subplot of EllieÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s Dad. I feel like it was put into the book for a good reason, and then kind of blown over at the end. Nothing was ever resolved, at least I donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t think it was, and I still have more questions about him and if their relationship will ever develop.3. The relationship between Ellie and her best friend Quinn was kind of lacking. I donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t think they had enough book time, and I think their relationship should have been patched up way before it actually was. Their story could have expanded the book even more, and I think their subplot didnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t get enough attention either.Things I loved about the book:1. Whoopie pies. YUM! I actually think theyÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢re the sweet treat of PA, because I see them everywhere! The book just made me want to run over to the Amish Market and get one, or at least run to Starbucks.2. EllieÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s momÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s shop. I love beach shops. I love Knick Knack shops. I love postcards! The scene with the little girl picking out a postcard brought a tear to my eye.3. Maine. While I was reading this book, I told my husband I wanted to visit Maine next summer. He said yes! Too bad IÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢m allergic to shellfish, I could really go for some lobster.4. The beach. Oh, how I adore the ocean. Any book that involves the summer/beach is awesome in my mind. Especially when itÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s cold and winter, like it is now.

I give this book more like *3.5 Stars* rounded up.I enjoyed the story and feel that the author is a good story teller. This was my first by this author and it was a good first impression. I will read more by her.I felt like the two main characters were very mature for their 16 and 17 years on this planet. The story was kind of slow to start but after it picked up speed I didn't want to put it down.There were times, mostly in the beginning that I felt like there were too many unnecessary details either about the setting or the characters in general.I also felt like the ending was a bit abrupt and left me as a reader hanging. There were a lot of lose ends concerning Ellie's dad and some other things. This might be the author's style but I hope not because it feels like a let down when a lot of things aren't resolved. I'm hoping there is a sequel or something in the works.There was romance but it was subtle and I think that is appropriate for the age level this novel is marketed for. It is a clean book.

Cute story. I was a little turned off by the age of the kids. I think it was because the way they interacted and spoke to each other made it seem like they were much older. I don't know how much this book would appeal to a teenager since it is so unrealistic. I skimmed through a lot of pages. Many scenes were drawn out and boring. The overall story was cute and I wish it didn't end where it did.

After reading The Statistical Probability of Love at First Sight (tell me that isn't the longest and most complicated YA title to spell lol) last year I was pretty excited to get my hands on This is What Happy Looks Like cause really, what does it look like?! Pitched as relatable to You've Got Mail I was pretty much all over it. Also, can we take a moment to admire that cover? I swear, Jennifer E. Smith has the most --- what is the word I'm looking for --- intriguing looking covers without it being too much. Like I just want to pick it up and look at stare at it!This is What Happy Looks Like is about a boy named Graham who has a pet pig, prefers his own company oh and did I mention he's a well known heartthrob celebrity? It's also about Ellie, a girl from a small town living with her mom who dreams of going to Harvard to study poetry.Sadly I don't really have anything to say about this read. There were things I didn't understand, like why Graham reacted on his excitement to see Ellie without thinking about who was around or what may or may not happen considering he's surrounded by people. Or why Ellie's best friend was such a b**** the majority of the time.I guess I didn't really feel that build up within their friendship/relationship and I while I understood that Graham wanted to be a normal teenager sometimes with a normal life I didn't feel it. Unlike

TSPoLaFS it didn't have a darker note to it or a deeper meaning. But it was an enjoyable read as something to end the summer with!

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