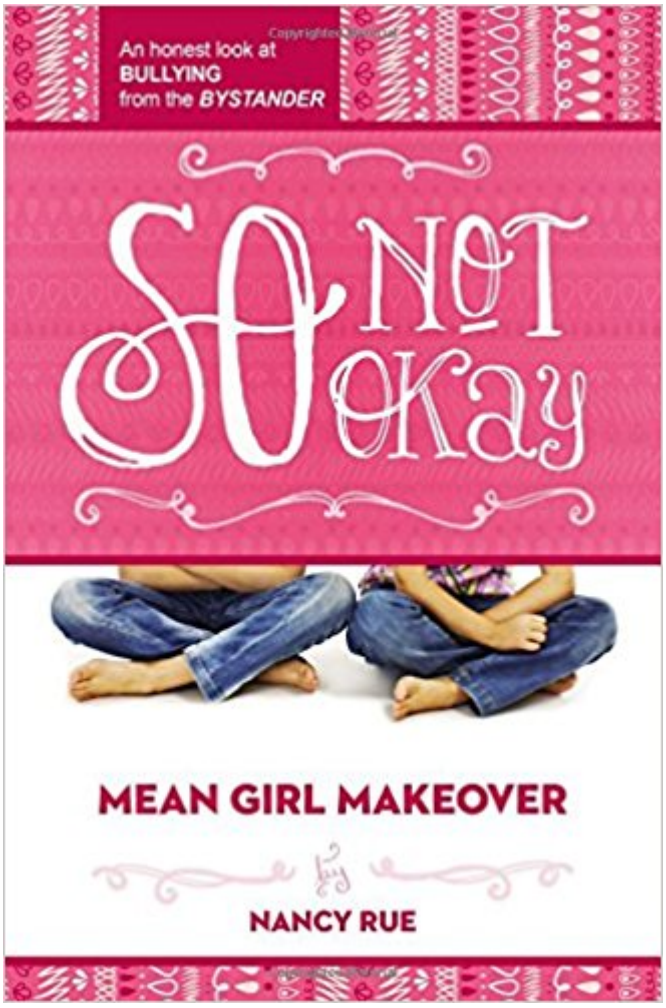
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So Not Okay: An Honest Look At Bullying From The Bystander (Mean Girl Makeover)



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Synopsis

There is no such thing as neutral.According to the Ambassadors 4 Kids Club, one out of every four students is bulliedÃ¢â ¬â •and 85% of these situations never receive intervention. Parents, students, and teachers alike have amped up the discussion of how to solve the bullying problem for a networked generation of kids.Ã Â Written by bestselling author, Nancy Rue, each book in the Mean Girl Makeover trilogy focuses on a different characterÃ¢â ¬â„¢s point of view: the bully, the victim, and the bystander. Each girl has a different personality so that every reader can find a character she relates to. The books, based on Scripture, show solid biblical solutions to the bullying problem set in a story for kids.So Not Okay, the first book in the series,Ã Â tells the story of Tori Taylor, a quiet sixth grader at Gold Country Middle School in Grass Valley, California. Tori knows to stay out of the way of Kylie, the queen bee of GCMS. When an awkward new student named Ginger becomes Kylie's new target, Tori whispers a prayer of thanks that itÃ¢â ¬â„¢s not her. But as KylieÃ¢â ¬â„¢s bullying of Ginger continues to build, Tori feels guilty and tries to be kind to Ginger. Pretty soon, the bullying line of fire directed toward Ginger starts deflecting onto Tori, who must decide if she and her friends can befriend Ginger and withstand KylieÃ¢â ¬â„¢s taunts, or do nothing and resume their status quo. ToriÃ¢â ¬â„¢s decision dramatically changes her trajectory for the rest of the school year.Ã Â

Book Information

Series: Mean Girl Makeover (Book 1)

Paperback: 304 pages

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Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.8 x 8.4 inches

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 56 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #777,277 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #65 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Religious Fiction > Christian > Social Issues #774 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Bullies #4628 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Religions > Christianity

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Nancy Rue has written over 100 books for girls, is the editor of the Faithgirlz Bible, and is a popular speaker and radio guest with her expertise in tween and teen issues. She and husband, Jim, have raised a daughter of their own and now live in Tennessee.

I found this to be an easy to read, relatable story that I'm sure will help many middle-grade age children feel more comfortable talking about bullying and how to effectively battle against it.For a few years now, Tori and her group of friends have been the main target of popular girl Kylie and her clique. When new girl Ginger (real name Virginia Eve) transfers to Tori's school, at first Tori and her friends feel relief. Ginger proves to be so socially inept that it takes the heat off of Tori and her friends for a time. Ginger (and of course Rue makes the girl a redhead!) doesn't have the cool clothes, she eats pickle and PB sandwiches at lunch, she struggles to control her body odor and she tends to yell things as she's talking even when she doesn't mean to -- but the thing about Ginger is she still tries to make friends, she tries to put herself out there, even if she's bound to get shot down and have her heart broken.Tori witnesses Ginger suffering bullying at the hands of Kylie and Co., thinks maybe she should help Ginger out. Tori's friends say "heck no! that'd just put the heat back on us!" so Tori goes along with what her friends want until she just can't stand the feelings of guilt anymore. Though it does put her and her friends back on Kylie's radar, Tori invites Ginger to join their circle, convinced she is doing what is right. Tori and the girls then learn how to combat bullying via Lydia, the assistant of Tori's father. Lydia has battled bullying all of her life because of her dwarfism, so she has a tip or two to teach them -- one rule being to become a "tribelet", finding strength in numbers and being able to divide and conquer the bullies when they aren't in a grouping of their own.Along with the tribelet lesson, there are many more that young readers can take away from this book to put into effect into their own school situations. Another element I really appreciated about this story was the fact that it addressed the reality that bullying can come from numerous different sources, sometimes that source being our closest friends. We don't want to think it's bullying when it's someone so close to us but it can happen. This story helps identify what different kinds of bullying can look like. I also liked that it got into pointing out how oblivious to the situation parents and teachers can be; how teachers can side with the popular kids just because the teachers too find the bullied kids "weird" and somehow justify their inaction with "the kid brought it on himself / herself by being weird

I was in tears for these girls by the end of this book. It was so emotional my son came into my room in a panic, asking me what was wrong. I told him it was the book getting to me, and he rolled his eyes and left. But I called him back in and told him the subject matter was bullying and it was so well written, so well thought out, and so real that it took me back to middle school and high school and broke my heart all over again. Nancy Rue, I believe, has written THE book series ("So Not Okay" is the first of three) on the topic of bullying. She writes from the point of view of the bully, the pack mentality, the bullied, and the bystander, as well as the administration's response to the issue. I fell in love with this tribelet (you'll have to read the book) as they gathered information on why people can be so mean, and then what to do about it. I ached for Tori as she was torn between a long time friendship and doing what she believed was right. And Ginger....oh, my...I WAS Ginger! But I wished I was Mitch, or even Winnie instead. And then there was Lydia...what a precious mentor! And Mr. V. and....well, the cast of characters is amazing. You seriously do not want to miss this book, because that would be "So Not Okay" to do! Read it with your kids, talk about it, have them share the book with friends. Better yet, buy copies for their friends! Buying my copy was the best investment I've made in reading material, and I can hardly wait for Nancy's next book in "The Mean Girl Makeover" series! Now is the time to get "So Not Okay" and read it. So, go! Get it! Read it!

The Pack was there before. That wasn't what had changed. It was just that Tori had never been their target before.Kylie and her friends- the Pack, as Tori calls them - are the girls in sixth grade who decide what's cool. And apparently the new girl Ginger is not. Will it just "go away", as some people say, or should Tori do something? And if she will - what will it cost her?Bullying isn't a joke. It's real and it's out there. So Not Okay deals more with the word-bullying than the hit-and-punch bullying. The type of bullying that leaves you feeling like a looser and a nerd. The type that calls a girl "gingerbread" of doesn't let her go to her locker or laughs when she reads her essay. The type that's hard to pin point and that's easy to miss for the adults. But is still there.So Not Okay is Nancy Rue's first book in the anti-bullying series. It is told from the bystander's point of view. Tori learns that there is no such thing as "neutral" and that something can-and should- be done. There is also discussion on WHAT can be done.If you want some great fiction with an even greater message, you just might enjoy this book. The second one -You Can't Sit With Us- is told from the bullied girl's point of view and the last one from the bully's point-of-view.

Kid loves it

these were a Godsend for my 11 year old granddaughter who was going through similar situations at school. they really helped.

This series is the best on bullying I have ever read, and I have been doing a literature review on bullying for the past year now. Can’t wait for the third book to come in three weeks!

This book should be read by students and teachers. It helps bring awareness to the hidden bullying that happens. Not all of it is just drama.

Lovely book! Read with students for a middle school book club. All of the girls loved it too :)

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