

Wahlert High School
Dubuque, Iowa

Dear Ms. Niffenegger,

I read The Time Travelers Wife while I was on a trip to France. My roommate had already read the story, so as I read I had someone to talk to about what was going on in the lives of Clare and Henry. Although being a female, I absolutely hate romance novels, the Lifetime channel and most of all “chick flicks”. My roommate said, “Well if they made it into a movie, it would be a chick flick,” causing me to become skeptical. Honestly this is one of my favorite books, ever.

I loved how I was drawn into Clare and Henry’s lives and their relationship. I sat, read, and tried to pinpoint how their relationship worked, though their eight-year difference in age, their very different childhood experiences, and their different interests in life. I could relate to their relationship very well. My best friend is a guy and everyone in my life, myself included, has tried to analyze why we work so well. But I think what made Henry and Clare, as well as my friend and I work is that they brought out the best in each other. Henry couldn’t really open up to anyone the way he could to Clare and he was the sweetest to Clare. Clare completed Henry, luckily he realized that! Henry on the other hand was always there for Clare. She said, “You are making me different.” Clare was who she was because of Henry. She knew that he loved her with everything that he had and that is all she needed to be okay.

This book made me think about soul mates: and the possibility that there is a soul mate out there for everyone. I think if I were Clare, it would be amazing to know my soul mate for almost all of my life. What a weight off my shoulders to know that I do not have to worry about finding the person for me. Clare was very lucky. But in that luckiness she stayed very grounded. She was just happy, genuinely happy. Henry though was like most people, in that he found his soul mate. But when he met Clare he knew that there was something special about her.

I like how although Henry and Clare have this unbelievable connection they still have problems, they still fight, and they still annoy each other. This challenges the thought of “perfect love”. Henry and Clare, to me, have a love that everyone should hope and pray to have in live. But seeming that they still have issues really brings that back down to earth and makes it a realistic “perfect love”. In their problems though, I felt so involved that I was sad when they fought and wanted them to just make up and be okay. But in the back of my mind I knew they would be because they were meant for each other.

This book brought me new insight for a healthy relationship to look at. It made me happy to know that love, well at least for Henry and Clare would be strong no matter what place or even time. The relationship reminded me of my own, making me understand more that not knowing what makes people work is an amazing mystery unto itself.

Sincerely,

Sam Latimer