

Crestwood Junior High  
Cresco, Iowa

Dear Misty Bernall,

Some people read books because they have to or read them and don't understand what the book means and don't think about it. When I read the back of your book, She Said Yes, I was hooked and started reading it right away.

Your book changed me and made me think about my relationship with my parents. Before reading your book I always wanted to get away from home and go with friends because it seemed so boring at home. I had never been really close to my mom but after reading your book, I was somehow brought to her. We cherish our time together and spend more time doing what we love, like baking cookies, playing board games and cards. Sometimes even shopping together makes me happy to be with her. My mom probably never even noticed, but if my mom ever asks me how I changed, your book is the answer. Thank you for showing me this special connection Cassie and her mom kind of had!

I have read many books about people dying in tragedies but none like Cassie's and none as touching as hers either. Recently something happened in my family. My great-grandpa died. That made me sort of upset because I haven't seen him in a long time and was planning on going up there next week but he died before we got there I was mad and moody but I thought about Cassie and her family. For a second there I thought I was totally not going to care about Cassie and go back to the way I was before reading the book, like judging people and only talking to certain kids, but just thinking about Cassie's I made me promise myself that I would never lose it again.

There are many people that say, "And I thought I had it bad!" but I never really understood that thought. Now I do and that is exactly what I say when I think about Cassie. This is a book that I can look back at when I have hard times or get a little bit upset or angry at something, and I am sure I will all the way through high school and my adulthood. Thank you, Misty, for this incredible, life changing feeling from this book of yours!

Sincerely,

Mackenzie McCarroll