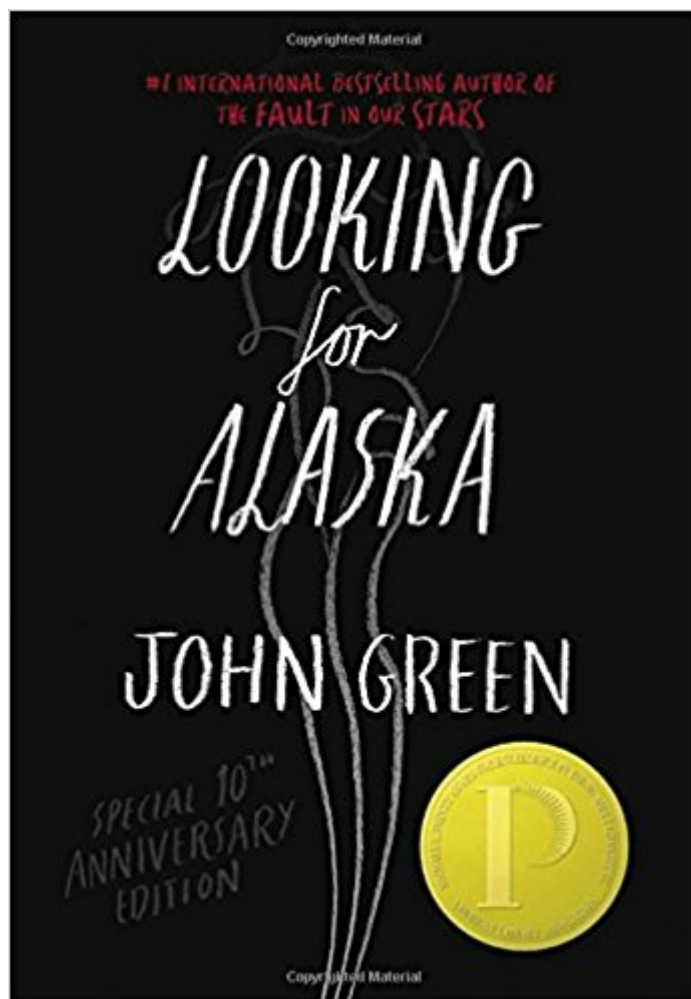


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Looking For Alaska Special 10th Anniversary Edition



Synopsis

A gorgeous collector's edition of John Green's critically acclaimed debut novel *A Perfect Gift* for any fan, this deluxe hardcover features a stunning special edition jacket and 50 pages of all-new exclusive content, including:

- An introduction by John Green
- Extensive Q&A: John Green answers readers' most frequently asked questions
- Deleted scenes from the original manuscript
- Winner of the Michael L. Printz Award
- A Los Angeles Times Book Prize Finalist
- A New York Times Bestseller
- A USA Today Bestseller Top Ten, NPR's 100 Best-Ever Teen Novels
- TIME Magazine's 100 Best Young Adult Novels of All Time

Miles Halter is fascinated by famous last words and tired of his safe life at home. He leaves for boarding school to seek what the dying poet Francois Rabelais called "The Great Perhaps." Much awaits Miles at Culver Creek, including Alaska Young, who will pull Miles into her labyrinth and catapult him into the Great Perhaps. Looking for Alaska brilliantly chronicles the indelible impact one life can have on another. A modern classic, this stunning debut marked #1 bestselling author John Green's arrival as a groundbreaking new voice in contemporary fiction.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Gr 10 Up • The Printz Award-winning novel that kickstarted John Green's career and introduced a whole generation of teens to a new era of YA literature is turning 10 this year. Though the text itself remains the same, there are many extras included in this edition. There is an introduction by Green himself, a helpful Q & A section, and, perhaps most interesting for scholars,

portions of the original manuscript that didn't make it into the final book, along with correspondence between Green and his editor. Purists may gasp to hear that the now-iconic "smoking" cover has been redesigned. But take heart; the new jacket, created by Rodrigo Corral, pays homage to the original with a deep black background and a subtle wisp of smoke. Replace worn copies and introduce a whole new crop of teens to this new classic.

Praise and awards for *Looking for Alaska*: “What sings and soars in this gorgeously told tale is Green’s mastery of language and the sweet, rough edges of Pudge’s voice. Girls will cry and boys will find love, lust, loss and longing in *Alaska*’s vanilla-and-cigarette scent.”

“Alive with sweet, self-deprecating humor. Like Phineas in John Knowles’s *A Separate Peace*, Green draws Alaska so lovingly, in self-loathing darkness as energetic light.”

“Miles is an articulate spokesperson for the legions of teens searching for life meaning.”

“Readers will only hope that this is not the last word from this promising new author.”

“Green has a writer’s voice, so self-assured and honest that one is startled to learn that this novel is his first. The anticipated favorable comparisons to Holden Caulfield are richly deserved in this highly recommended addition to young adult literature.”

“Compelling. What sets this novel apart is the brilliant, insightful, suffering but enduring voice.”

“Funny, sad, inspiring, and always compelling.”

“Stunning conclusion . . . one worthy of a book this good.”

A 2005 *Teens* Top Ten Selection

An ALA Best Book for Young Adults

Top 10

An ALA Quick Pick for Reluctant Young Readers

A Booklist Editors’ Choice

A Kirkus Best Book of 2005

A School Library Journal Best Book of the

Year 11 A New York Public Library Book for the Teen
Age 11

This book was recommended to me because of my love of *The Catcher in the Rye*. I was told that there had been some comparisons made between the main character, Miles, and Holden Caulfield. While I did see some similarities between the two, I found *Looking for Alaska* to be filled with original characters who were memorable all on their own. Every character had such a vivid personality, and the relationships between them was much deeper than you find in your typical young adult novel. I loved that the characters were genuinely good people - even the principal ended up being decent - and they were all there for each other, working through the hard times, and learning from each other. There were a lot of serious issues covered, but they were covered with such wit and humor and such an amazing choice of words, that by the time you finish you feel as if you are a changed person. You feel as if you learned something important about the world - which I believe is the test of a really good book. Needless to say, I loved it and highly recommend it.

"*Looking for Alaska*" is a complex and amazing book full of hope, tears, love, and more tears. In the book it sets up the book as a predictable love story or falling for the girl story but has many changes in the plot that may catch you off guard but overall thrill and excite you. The book is perfectly descriptive and yet simply to the point. There is very little or none that I would change about this book. Good job yet again John Green

After enjoying a few of John Green's books, I was excited about *Looking for Alaska*. Unfortunately it was a huge let down. The characters were irritatingly predictable, and the use of profanity was ridiculous. Whereas Green's other books manage to cross over to enjoyable literature for older adults, this felt like I was reading something designed to be read by snickering teenage boys in the corner of the library.

As I absolutely loved the movie *"The Fault of Our Stars"*. I decided to try reading a Green book. They do seem geared more to younger people. I liked it OK but I could not relate to the willingness of these young people who had a chance to be at this well thought of prep school and how they could that away for "pranks". It did not seem to have any real end. Green did seem to tie it up with the idea of Alaska's end stragity to the labyrinth, but I was never too happy with it. I wasn't crazy about Alaska's willy, nilly flippancy either . Her moral "looseness" offended me. Guess I will have to

maybe try another one to see if I missed out here. I think my problem is my age. I kinda wish that there would be a ballpark figure on the reviewers' age then you might get a better idea of where the reviewer is coming from in their comments so you would be better able to see how this might affect your reading of the reviewed book.

The answer to "what did you think" is kind of complicated. Overall, I liked the book. John Green really has a way with words and such real character that I can't dislike any of his books. He tends to choose heavier topics and does a good job at...doing so. This one though, is by far the heaviest of the stories of his that I've read. It almost doesn't feel like the same author in some respects. It is a first novel. (At least in known publications.) Pros: Well-written, Complex, believable, real characters, Interesting story. Loved the narrator's voice. It's so normal and extraordinary all at once - if you know what I mean. Cons: It's very sad. Very. I am left with a feeling of loss -- which goes to show good writing, but it still hurts. I found it weird how this straight-laced kid goes from no friends at home to friends and doing all kinds of not straight-laced things at his new school. It's very, very sad. I can't. John Green's novel. I just can't. The voice of the narrator is just so wonderful...it's amusing and it's like someone is really talking. You can hear it. I love it. This isn't my favorite John Green novel, but it's still a good one.

I read this book because I wanted to get my 12 year old niece one. I didn't find it appropriate for her but that was not a problem; I kept reading waiting for the story to improve and find something that might make me want to wait a few more years and then give it to her, but nothing happened. Even the parts that are supposed to be intense are predictable. I feel like John Green has been using the same characters, but with different names. I think the book is poorly written and even the metaphors are plain. I'm 22 so I don't think it's because I'm too old for the story. I just don't think this is a book worth reading.

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