

Connor, Leslie. **Waiting for Normal**. 290 p.

Recommended for Grades 6-8

Realistic Fiction

Waiting for Normal is a gripping novel; the main character Addie lives a life full of “twists and turns”. Mommers, Addie’s mother, is almost never home, staying out late at night and sometimes not returning for days. Addie is forced to rely on herself and her friends more than her mother. Addie’s best friend Soula saves her life as Addie’s trailer burns from an accidental fire. In the end, Mommers winds up in jail; Addie’s stepfather gets custody of her and sadly her best friend Soula dies after her battle with cancer.

This book is age appropriate for middle school kids and an easy read. **Waiting for Normal** is a fantastic book, which shows you the different types of families and the problems that many face. Leslie Connor brilliantly uses conflict, friendship and family to create the story. I enjoyed the story and it made me realize that no family is really normal.

-Jessica