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Millicent Min, Girl Genius

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Who would have thought being smart could be so hard (and funny)? Millicent Min is having a bad summer. Her fellow high school students hate her for setting the curve. Her fellow 11-year-olds hate her for going to high school. And her mother has arranged for her to tutor Stanford Wong, the poster boy for Chinese geekdom. But then Millie meets Emily. Emily doesn’t know Millicent’s IQ score. She actually thinks Millie is cool. And if Millie can hide her awards, ignore her grandmother’s advice, swear her parents to silence, blackmail Stanford, and keep all her lies straight, she just might make her first friend. What’s it going to take? Sheer genius.

**Synopsis**

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**Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 800 (What's this?)

Mass Market Paperback: 272 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Paperbacks (September 1, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0439425204


Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 0.7 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars


Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

**Customer Reviews**

Grade 5-8--Millie, an 11-year-old with a genius IQ, is taking a college poetry class and waiting for her high school senior year. Because she never hesitates to show how much she knows about a particular subject, her peers tend to stay away. Millie’s social ineptitude is a cause of concern for her parents. Against her will, she is enrolled in summer volleyball and enlisted to tutor Stanford Wong, a friend of the family. Into this mix enters Emily, a volleyball teammate and typical preteen. The girls become friends but Millie neglects to tell Emily about her genius status. Eventually the truth surfaces
and Emily feels betrayed. Millie thinks that Emily is angry because she is smart, never realizing that
the betrayal comes from her lack of trust in their friendship. While some readers will have trouble
identifying with Millie, her trials and tribulations result in a story that is both funny and heartwarming.
A universal truth conveyed is that honesty and acceptance of oneself and of others requires a
maturity measured not by IQ but by generosity of spirit.--Sharon Morrison, Southeastern Oklahoma
State University, Durant, OK

Gr. 4-6. Certified genius Millicent Min has problems. Sure, her parents have finally consented to let
her take a college poetry class over the summer (even though Millie is not yet 12). But it turns out
college kids aren’t her peers—they’re as dumb and lazy as her nemesis, Stanford. If Millie can just
keep her brilliance a secret from Emily, Millie’s first real friend, and manage to keep Emily and
Stanford from smooching (ick!), things might turn out OK. Yee’s first novel examines child prodigies
from a refreshing angle, allowing nongeniuses to laugh appreciatively at the ups and downs of being
a whiz kid. Millie’s pretentious voice grows tiresome after a while, but Yee does an excellent job of
showing both Millie’s grown-up brain and her decidedly middle-school problems. Even if they can’t
relate to her mastery of Latin, most kids will readily follow as Millie struggles through a world where
she’s smarter than everyone but still sometimes clueless. John Green

There are different ways to be an eccentric—and I mean this term in the most positive sense—and it
is not clear that the author necessarily intended to suggest that Millicent is on the autism spectrum.
She may or may not be. Whether she is or not, this is a great illustration of what a girl with
Asperger’s Syndrome who slips through the cracks and is not diagnosed might be like: Brilliant in
many ways and yet so naive in others. Not all geeky people have one narrow interest. In fact,
Millicent shows interest in the literature course she is taking at a community college over the
summer—so much that she tries to inspire the rest of the class to add on to the readings. It is
arranged that those interested in optional additional readings stay after the first class to talk to the
instructor. Strangely, Millicent ends up the only one to seek out this opportunity.

Millicent Min Girl Genius is a fabulous story for introverts. Millicent says things that logical people
may often have thought about emotional situations. She made me laugh out loud several times. The
story is really well written with amazing voice. I can picture Millie hanging out with her grandmother and attending her college poetry class at 11 years old. Ms. Yee brilliantly captures the loneliness of being smart but socially awkward. All the character are well drawn and I enjoyed my time with each of them. It’s about finding a friend and being afraid of losing them. Of learning to enjoy things in life like overpriced $4 cotton candy and rollercoaster rides that make you dizzy. A great book that I whipped through in one day!

When I finished listening to the unabridged audio version of MILLICENT MIN, GIRL GENIUS, I began looking forward to more books by the perceptive and witty Yee. Her book captivates on several levels — Millie is brilliant, yet naive, Emily is bubbly yet astute, etc. Handling these layers is difficult for even the most seasoned of novelists, yet Yee carries it off with deft skill, touching compassion and sharp humor that never becomes obvious. Basically, Millie is like a preteen Mr. Spock on a planet of William Shatners, but ultimately she realizes the truth of the adage that “everyone is my superior in that I may learn from them.” Along the way, we become attached to the rich characterizations Yee spins and the amusing situations that keep us listening and/or reading page after page. Everybody repeat after me: MORE MILLIE! MORE MILLIE! MORE YEE! MORE YEE! Let’s hope this is just the beginning of a library of wondrous works from one of America’s most promising writers.

Millicent Min is a delightful prodigy with social incompetence. Although only eleven years old, Millie has already completed the 11th grade and is taking a summer college class. Millie’s academic and sophisticated vocabulary contrasts with her childlike naÃƒÂ¢ve, which endears her to the reader. With wit and wisdom, Lisa Yee has created an unusual, charming protagonist who matures one summer with the help of a new friend, a reluctant student, and her fun-loving family who are all dealing with problems of their own. I love Millie’s voice, the way she thinks, her vocabulary, and her perfectionist habits. Lisa Yee weaves humor with a gripping emotional depth, creating a lovely work of art. In addition to Millicent, Lisa Yee must be a genius.

Millicent is your basic clueless but likeable brainiac. Don’t be put off by the first chapter and Millicent’s writing in Latin. It just goes to show how different her humor is. I also like the idea of two other books about her friends, Stanford and Emily. I haven’t read them yet but want to see what their point of view of Millicent is. In the interest of full disclosure (and so you can see where I’m coming from) I have to say I am a grandmother and an English tutor.
of a young Asian-American girl and the age-old dilemmas of growing up. Humorous and quick-paced, this story held my 11 year old’s attention. Millicent Minn is a girl genius that doesn’t make friends easily. In the hopes of letting her daughter experience a ‘normal’ childhood, Millicent’s mother signs her up for volleyball. Millicent’s dismay in not getting to take a college course soon ends when she finds a friend, Emily. Hoping to seem like a regular kid, Millicent lies to Emily, hiding the truth about her intelligence. And the trouble begins!

My 8-year-old read this in two days and wants the others in the series.

I am so glad that I purchased through this site- I was able to get the books I needed quickly, and without hassle!

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