

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Always Unique

Even though Stargirl was written years ago, its message still connects with readers today. The story of a girl who dares to be different in a world that values sameness is something people of all ages can relate to. The novel reminds us of the challenges of being true to ourselves and the importance of accepting others for who they are.

Stargirl Caraway is unlike anyone at Mica High School. She wears long, flowing dresses, plays the ukulele, and cheers for both teams at sporting events. At first, students are fascinated by her. They admire her confidence and enjoy her kindness. But soon, they turn against her. They whisper about her behind her back, stop talking to her, and eventually, make her feel like an outsider.

This story is still relevant today because many people, especially young students, experience the pressure to fit in. In schools, on social media, and in communities, people sometimes feel like they have to act a certain way to be accepted. Stargirl reminds us that true happiness comes from embracing who we are, not from changing ourselves to fit others' expectations.

Leo Borlock, the narrator, struggles with this lesson. He loves Stargirl but also wants to be liked by his classmates. He asks her to act more "normal," hoping it will make things easier for both of them. However, when she tries to change, she loses the spark that made her special. In the end, Leo realizes too late that he should have accepted her just the way she was. His regret teaches readers that we should celebrate people for their differences, not ask them to hide them.

The lesson of Stargirl is clear: individuality should be valued, and kindness should never be seen as strange. The novel encourages readers to be themselves and to appreciate others for their uniqueness. Whether in the past or today, the message remains the same—true acceptance comes from the heart, not from following the crowd.