

Name _____



Archie's Wisdom

Archie Brubaker wasn't like the other adults in Mica, Arizona. While most teachers and parents at Mica High focused on rules and expectations, Archie spent his time surrounded by fossils, ancient bones, and curious students. His house was a museum of wonders, and his words were just as valuable as the artifacts he collected.

Leo often visited Archie when he needed advice, and as his feelings for Stargirl grew, so did his confusion. Stargirl wasn't like anyone else at Mica High—she cheered for both teams, played her ukulele in the lunchroom, and cared more about kindness than popularity. At first, Leo admired her uniqueness, but when the school turned against her, he felt caught between his love for her and his desire to fit in.

Archie listened patiently as Leo shared his struggles. Instead of telling Leo what to do, he guided him with wisdom. "She's more real than anyone else," Archie said about Stargirl. He explained that people like her are rare, like fossils in the desert. They don't fit the mold, and that makes them special—but it also makes them misunderstood.

Archie's words stuck with Leo, but they didn't immediately change his actions. Leo still wished Stargirl could be "normal," still worried about what his classmates thought. But after she left, Archie's wisdom became clearer. He had tried to warn Leo that true individuality is precious and that fitting in isn't as important as staying true to oneself.

Years later, when Leo thought back to Stargirl, he also remembered Archie's lessons. He realized that being different isn't a flaw—it's a gift. Through Archie, the novel teaches readers to appreciate uniqueness, reminding us that the most extraordinary people don't always follow the crowd.