

Name _____



True Colors

At Mica High School, blending in was the norm. Students dressed alike, acted alike, and rarely questioned the unwritten rules of popularity. But when Stargirl Caraway arrived, she didn't just break the rules—she ignored them completely.

Stargirl dressed in bright, flowing skirts, wore no makeup, and carried a sunflower in her backpack. She played the ukulele in the cafeteria and sang "Happy Birthday" to students she barely

knew. She cheered for the opposing team at basketball games and left small, thoughtful gifts for strangers. Her kindness and confidence made her stand out in a way no one at Mica High had ever seen before.

At first, students were fascinated. They whispered about her in the hallways, trying to figure out if she was real or some kind of joke. Some admired her bravery, while others felt uncomfortable with how different she was. But as time went on, admiration turned into rejection. The students who once clapped along to her songs began to avoid her. They wanted her to be normal, to fit in.

Leo Borlock, a quiet and observant boy, found himself drawn to Stargirl. He loved her uniqueness and the way she saw beauty in small things. But when the school turned against her, Leo struggled. He wanted to be with Stargirl, but he also wanted to be accepted. He asked her to change—to dress like everyone else, to stop singing in public, to be "normal." And for a while, she tried. She wore jeans and t-shirts, tied her hair back, and kept her ukulele at home.

But something was missing. The sparkle in her eyes dimmed. She wasn't truly happy pretending to be someone else. Eventually, Stargirl chose to be herself again, even if it meant standing alone. She showed Mica High the power of self-expression—the courage to be different, even when others don't understand.

By the time she was gone, she had left an unforgettable mark. Though many students quickly returned to their old ways, some, like Leo, realized too late what they had lost. Stargirl had taught them a lesson about identity: Being true to yourself is more important than fitting in.