

874 Indian Hill Road

Hendersonville, NC 28791

Dear Rebecca Behrens,

When I read When Audrey Met Alice, I absolutely loved it! I felt that if I put it down, I was missing a new adventure, and every night I fell asleep with it still in my hand. Audrey and Alice both inspired me to become bolder and more confident. Even though I am not the president's daughter, Audrey and I are very similar; we both try to fit in even if it's extremely hard, and we both try to make people happy whether we like it or not. Alice helps both of us know that we can make our own decisions and that it is okay to go out on a limb sometimes, even if mischief is involved.

Being known as the shy, smart girl at school can have its perks but not always. Before I read When Audrey met Alice, I had never really distinguished myself. I was always just kind of a plain Jane. I would do what other people wanted me to do because it was just easier to agree with other people. But I learned about myself while I was reading your book. Audrey wasn't the only one to meet Alice--I did too, and she taught me not to be afraid of who I really was. She showed me the bold and quirky person I really am--and so did acting.

A little after I read it, I saw that our state theatre was holding auditions for "The Wizard of Oz." This really spoke to me because I loved the movie when I was younger, and it has always been one of my favorite books. Even though I was super nervous, I thought about what Alice would say, and I auditioned. The call backs were even worse, everyone knowing that if you made the smallest mistake, a part might just slip through your fingertips. Not only did I get cast, I also loved it! Just like Audrey connects with Alice, I really connected with all the other actors. Actors and actresses are really special, and they are proud to be different. They share inside jokes and complain about the weirdest things like, "Ugh, it is so hard to do choreography when you're a leftie." But in a strange way, you know all of them "have your back." I finally fit in.

Before I read about Audrey and Alice, I didn't really have friends. It was just me and my books. But now I have a new circle of theater friends and a new best friend. My best friend and I, as Alice would say, "eat up the world!" And no matter what, we have each other's back (even if one of us wears a flapper dress like Audrey). We bring out the best side of each other and I don't know what I would do without her. It's crazy to think that--maybe--without this book, I wouldn't have met her.

When Audrey Met Alice has impacted my life, and I'm so happy that I read it. I'm still amazed that a piece of art could change a person's life in such a surprising way. Thank you (and Alice) for helping me to show the world who I really am. Like Alice always says,

To thine own self be true,

*Catherine Boyette*

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