



**Title:** Turtles All the Way Down

**Author:** John Green

**Imprint:** Dutton Books for Young Readers

**Publisher:** Penguin Young Readers

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**Format:** Hardcover and Paperback

**Age Range\*:** 14 and up

**Grade Range:** Gr 9 up

# BOOK RESUME: TURTLES ALL THE WAY DOWN

## BOOK SYNOPSIS

**JOHN GREEN**, the acclaimed author of *Looking for Alaska* and *The Fault in Our Stars*, returns with a story of shattering, unflinching clarity in this brilliant novel of love, resilience, and the power of lifelong friendship.

Aza Holmes never intended to pursue the disappearance of fugitive billionaire Russell Pickett, but there's a hundred-thousand-dollar reward at stake and her Best and Most Fearless Friend, Daisy, is eager to investigate. So together, they navigate the short distance and broad divides that separate them from Pickett's son Davis.

Aza is trying. She is trying to be a good daughter, a good friend, a good student, and maybe even a good detective, while also living within the ever-tightening spiral of her own thoughts.

## REVIEWS AND PRAISE

★ "A richly rewarding read...the most mature of Green's work to date and deserving of all the accolades that are sure to come its way." —*Booklist*, starred review

★ "In an age where troubling events happen almost weekly, this deeply empathetic novel about learning to live with demons and love one's imperfect self is timely and important." —*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

★ "A deeply resonant and powerful novel that will inform and enlighten readers even as it breaks their hearts. A must-buy." —*School Library Journal*, starred review

"A tender story about learning to cope when the world feels out of control."  
—*People*

"Green finds the language to describe the indescribable.... A must-read for those struggling with mental illness, or for their friends and family."  
—*San Francisco Chronicle*

"A powerful tale for teens (and adults) about anxiety, love and friendship."  
—*The Los Angeles Times*

"Wrenching and Revelatory." —*The New York Times*

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\*Publisher suggested age range covers the wide range of readers publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate range for their diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.

“Tender, wise, and hopeful.” —*The Wall Street Journal*

“A new modern classic.” —*The Guardian*

“A thoughtful look at mental illness and a debilitating obsessive-compulsive disorder that doesn’t ask but makes you feel the constant struggles of its main character.” —*USA Today*

“*Turtles* delivers a lesson that we so desperately need right now: Yes, it is okay not to be okay.... John Green has crafted a dynamic novel that is deeply honest, sometimes painful, and always thoughtful.” —Mashable

“Green does more than write *about*; he endeavours to write *inside*.... No matter where you are on the spiral—and we’re all somewhere—Green’s novel makes the trip, either up or down, a less solitary experience.” —*The Globe and Mail*

“This novel is by far [Green’s] most difficult to read. It’s also his most astonishing. .... So surprising and moving and true that I became completely unstrung.... One needn’t be suffering like Aza to identify with it. One need only be human.”  
—Jennifer Senior, —*The New York Times*

“Green’s most authentic and most ambitious work to date.” —Bustle

“An existential teenage scream.” —Vox

“Funny, clever, and populated with endearing characters.” —*Entertainment Weekly*

“An incredibly powerful tale of the pain of mental illness, the pressures of youth, and coming of age when you feel like you’re coming undone.” —Shelf Awareness

#### **AWARDS AND ACCOLADES**

- A YALSA Teens Top Ten selection
- A YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults selection
- A Junior Library Guild Young Adult selection
- An Indie Choice Book Award Honor
- An Empathy Lab Read for Empathy selection
- A *Booklist* Editors' Choice Selection
- A *BookPage* Best Book of the Year
- An *SLJ* Best Book of the Year
- A *Publishers Weekly* Best Book
- An Alabama Library Association’s Young Adult Award Winner
- A Pacific Northwest Library Association Young Reader’s Choice Award selection
- A California Westchester Fiction Award selection

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- A Colorado Blue Spruce Book Award selection
- An Illinois Lincoln Book Award selection
- An Indiana Eliot Rosewater High School Book Award selection
- An Indiana Read Aloud Award selection
- An Iowa High School Book Award selection
- A New Hampshire Flume Teen Book Award selection
- A Tennessee Volunteer State Book Award selection
- A Texas TAYSHAS Reading List selection
- A Wisconsin Milwaukee County Teen Book Award selection
- A *New York Times* Notable Book
- A *New York Times* Critics' Top Book of the Year
- An NPR Best Book of the Year
- A *TIME* Best Book of the Year
- A *Wall Street Journal* Best Book of the Year
- A *Boston Globe* Best Book of the Year
- An Entertainment Weekly Best Book of the Year
- A Seventeen Best Book of the Year
- A Southern Living Best Book of the Year
- An A.V. Club Best Book of the Year
- A Bustle Best Book of the Year
- A BuzzFeed Best Book of the Year
- A Pop Sugar Best Book of the Year
- A Vulture Best Book of the Year

#### **MEDIA AND RESOURCES**

- [TeachingBooks.net resources](#)
- [John Green New York Times interview around Banned Books](#)
- ["Literature Is Not a Cold, Dead Place": An Interview with John Green](#)
- [Discussion Guide](#)

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