

The Greatest Thing

By Sarah Winifred Searle
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Blurb:

This tender YA comic is perfect for fans of Raina Telgemeier's *Drama* and Shannon Hale and LeUyen Pham's *Real Friends* who are ready to graduate to their first teen graphic novel.

It's the first day of Grade Ten, and Winifred is going to reinvent herself. Now that her two best (and only) friends have transferred to a private school, Win must navigate high school on her own. Luckily, she isn't alone for long. In art class, she meets Oscar and April. They don't look or act like the typical teenagers in her town: they're creative, a little rebellious and seem comfortable in their own skin in a way that Win can only dream of.

But even though Winifred is breaking out of her shell, there's one secret she can't bear to admit to April and Oscar, or even to herself - and this lie threatens everything. Win needs to face her own truths, but she doesn't need to do it alone. Through the healing power of clandestine sleepovers, op-shopping and zine publishing, Win finds and accepts what it means to be herself.



Lamont Review:

Winifred is heading into Year 10, but it's going to be a different year - she will be without her two best friends, who have both changed schools. Win soon meets Oscar and April, and they seem to have their lives sorted. But things in life are not always as they seem, and Win will need to learn to navigate these new friendships.

A great graphic novel about losing friends, finding friends, learning to deal with anxiety, depression, and hidden eating disorders. With a cast of intriguing characters, and written with empathy and understanding, this will appeal to all teenagers trying to find their own place in the world, and those trying to find their people along the way.

It is set in the USA, but the themes and friendships are universal.

Reviewed by Michelle