



A Mango-Shaped Space

By Wendy Mass

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An award-winning book from the author of *Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life* and *The Candymakers* for fans of *Wonder* and *Counting by Sevens*

Mia Winchell has synesthesia, the mingling of perceptions whereby a person can see sounds, smell colors, or taste shapes. Forced to reveal her condition, she must look to herself to develop an understanding and appreciation of her gift in this coming-of-age novel.

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A Mango-Shaped Space By Wendy Mass Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 5-8-Mia, 13, has always seen colors in sounds, numbers, and letters, a fact she has kept secret since the day she discovered that other people don't have this ability. Then she discovers that she has a rare condition called synesthesia, which means that the visual cortex in her brain is activated when she hears something. From then on, she leads a kind of double life--she eagerly attends research gatherings with other synesthetes and devours information about the condition, but continues to struggle at school, where her inadvertent pairing of particular colors with numbers and words makes math and French almost impossible to figure out. Her gradual abandonment of her frustrating school life in favor of the compelling world of fellow synesthetes and the unique things only they can experience seems quite logical, although readers may feel like shaking some sense into her. Finally, and rather abruptly, her extreme guilt at her beloved cat Mango's illness brings her back down to earth and she begins to work on some of the relationships she let crumble. Mia's voice is believable and her description of the vivid world she experiences, filled with slashes, blurs, and streaks of color, is fascinating. Not all of the many characters are necessary to the story, and some of the plot elements go unresolved, but Mia's unique way of experiencing the world is intriguing.

Eva Mitnick, Los Angeles Public Library

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From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 6-10. This contemporary novel does for synesthesia what Terry Hesser's *Kissing Doorknobs* (1998) does for obsessive-compulsive disorder: the lively personal story demystifies a fascinating condition. For 13-year-old Mia Winchell, the world has always been filled with a wonderful, if sometimes dizzying, sensory onslaught--numbers, letters, words, and sounds all cause her to see a distinct array of colors. She keeps her unusual condition a secret until eighth grade, but then her color visions make math and Spanish impossibly confusing, and she must go to her parents and a doctor for help. However, this is more than a docu-novel. Mass beautifully integrates information about synesthesia with Mia's coming-of-age story, which includes her break with her best friend and her grief over her grandfather's death. The episode where Mia fabricates an illness to try out acupuncture for the color visions it produces is marvelously done, showing Mia's eagerness for new experiences even as it describes a synesthete's vision. References to a comprehensive Web site and bibliography about synesthesia are included. *Debbie Carton*

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Review

"Mia's voice is believable and her description of the vivid world she experiences, filled with streaks of color, is fascinating." -- *School Library Journal*

"The...narration lends immediacy and impact to Mia's color perceptions...a quietly unusual and promising offering" -- *Kirkus*

For those interested in psychology and the workings of the brain, this novel will hold their attention. -- *From Kliatt*

Teens ... will enjoy this unique look at a fascinating condition. It is highly recommended for the middle school crowd. -- *From VOYA*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Micheal Summers:

Reading a reserve can be one of a lot of action that everyone in the world enjoys. Do you like reading book and so. There are a lot of reasons why people fantastic. First reading a e-book will give you a lot of new facts. When you read a publication you will get new information because book is one of several ways to share the information or their idea. Second, reading through a book will make you more imaginative. When you looking at a book especially fictional book the author will bring that you imagine the story how the figures do it anything. Third, you can share your knowledge to other individuals. When you read this A Mango-Shaped Space, you can tells your family, friends and soon about yours guide. Your knowledge can inspire different ones, make them reading a book.

Gwen Dawes:

Spent a free time to be fun activity to try and do! A lot of people spent their down time with their family, or their own friends. Usually they doing activity like watching television, about to beach, or picnic within the park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your personal free time/ holiday? Can be reading a book could be option to fill your cost-free time/ holiday. The first thing that you will ask may be what kinds of publication that you should read. If you want to test look for book, may be the publication untitled A Mango-Shaped Space can be good book to read. May be it could be best activity to you.

Tamara Reams:

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Danny Padilla:

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