



## Archie of Outlandish: The Man Who Lives Under Umbrellas

*Lynnette Kraft*

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At 20 years old, Archibald Plumby has learned to accept his odd phobia of not being able to look up into open spaces without having a panic attack. He enjoys life under his umbrellas, where he feels safe. He knows he's a little spoiled to be living in the midst of the scenic beaches, fine restaurants, and charming attractions found in the town of Outlandish. But when Tallie, a photographer, comes to town and introduces herself to Archie, their connection is undeniable, and fears for the future begin to surface. When Archie and Tallie find themselves on diverging paths, only their faith can help them cope with separation, miscommunication, and unspoken anxieties that could keep them apart forever.

## Archie of Outlandish: The Man Who Lives Under Umbrellas Details

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Author : Lynnette Kraft

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## **From Reader Review Archie of Outlandish: The Man Who Lives Under Umbrellas for online ebook**

### **Brices Mice Christian Book Reviews says**

As I started to read Archie of Outlandish by Lynnette Kraft, I had the feeling that I just stepping into a dream world, narrated by a beloved gentle soul, who was setting the scene of a story that I hadn't a clue to what to expect, but knew something unique and unusual was about to happen. The town was called Outlandish, a perfect name for the residents that lived there...especially for a young man name Archibald Plumby, better known as Archie, to his dismay.

Archie was born with a fearful condition of not being able to look up without having a panic attack, and carried umbrellas, ate under the tables, and had a most unusual bedroom in which he felt safe. This behavior was accepted with love by his parents and townsfolk, who really never gave it a second thought as they accepted him as he was. He lived a quite life, observing and writing articles for the town paper Stay Afloat.

Just about the time of life that Archie was questioning his life, God intervenes and brings a young woman of interest into his life. What happens next is simply amazing, as the story flows with your emotions as the tides of this costal town.

I so felt this story was almost a metaphor for our lives that God hands to us, how we stay "Afloat" in our "Outlandish" lives, staying safe under our umbrellas. Sometimes it takes an outsider to shake up our little perfect world we live in. The beautiful illustrations add so much warmth without overpowering the story line. An added bonus is the beautiful, haunting music that comes with this lovely story of trust, faith and love.

Make sure you read the acknowledgment, as the credit is based out of love.

I truly see this story turned into a beautiful, faith based film with an exceptional score by this talented composer.

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### **Jean says**

My very first dnf....not what I expected. Seriously YA even though h and H are 20 and 21. Very spiritual

and there were actually pictures. (I'm not lying). Probably a good book for tweens.

*I received an ARC of this book through NetGalley for an honest review.*

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### **Melissa Borsey says**

I received a copy of this book from Netgalley in exchange for my honest review. After reading the reviews that have been lavished upon Archie of Outlandish, I felt that I had no choice but to request it and see what all this was about. This book was just delightful! I fell in love with the story and with Archie as well as his entire family! This book was fun, creative, attention-grabbing, and heartwarming! I am really glad I read this book and I highly recommend it!

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### **Jonas says**

Archie of Outlandish is an awesome book, which I found very pleasurable. Not only was the story well written, but also clean, full of kindness and love. This is a great book for all ages of people to read, and I highly recommend it to all!

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### **Melissa Souza says**

\*\*Thank you to the publisher and Netgalley for sending me an ARC in return for an honest review.

2.5 stars!!!

I'm going to try and keep this review as brief as possible. All I can say is that this story read at a middle grade level. The writing was so clunky and forced. The author is clearly not an expert at writing. There wasn't so much of showing as there was telling. So I got pretty bored reading about the characters. There are so many unnecessary details that reading felt more like a chore because the pacing became slow. At some point, I just wanted to be done with the story. The illustrations, on the other hand, were cute.

Although, I found the MC Archie to be rather quirky. I felt the conversations and interactions to be very flat. Even personality wise, none of them popped out at me. I thought the concept of the story was interesting and the worldbuilding was very peculiar and whimsical. But the characters needed to be fleshed out more with more realistic scenarios and situations. I felt the characters were all so goody-goody with no real flaws that made it hard to actually connect with them on a deeper level which I would have liked.

The only thing that I did like about this book was the mention of God. As a firm believer in Christ, I liked seeing some insightful life lessons interwoven in the novel. The book speaks about how God has a plan for our lives and trusting Him helps us find our passion as well as love. I liked how the characters kept God central in their lives, constantly seeking His guidance. I found this refreshing. However, I was majorly disappointed because I would have liked to see more passion flow through the pages especially when one is talking about a relationship with the Creator. As an author who is using a novel as a platform to engage and reach out to a reader in a profound way, this book missed the mark. I would have liked a deeper glimpse into Archie's relationship with God. This would have made for a richer experience and the context of the

relationship between Callie and him would have been more engaging.

In addition, I found the plot twists and devices to be sub par, to be honest. The story took predictable turns. I could see the ending a mile away. I also felt that character development was average with the MC and minor characters achieving some of their dreams but they weren't really pushing themselves. I would have liked more conflicts and struggles. That being said, it was an okay read. I wouldn't recommend this book to all readers as there is the element of spirituality. Maybe if you are looking for a faith-based, clean read you could give it a go. But, I guess there's better material out there in this genre.

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### **Courtney says**

The major thing that stood out to me in this novel was that it was different, unique and not something that I would typically read on my own. From the very beginning, the first few pages, I was taken in by this small town and the individuals found there. A recluse sort of town, primary a touristic attraction without the typical neighbors coming and going- moving in and out.

In a town where everyone knows everyone, there is one thing that stands out the most- a new comer, and for Archie this woman would change his life forever. A different individual with some abnormal conditions, it is hard for Archie to get out of his shell because others outside of his family didn't take the time to get to know him.

Through the winds of change coming in and blowing through, a young man's life will be changed forever. This is a story that you will want to read.

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### **R.L. Haas says**

I loved this book. I truly did. The whimsy and romance flooded me with this odd feeling of nostalgia (odd, I know) and had me nearly in tears by the time I finished. A sweet, pure, lovely read.

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### **Pouting Always says**

Archie lives in Outlandish a small quirky town that is popular with tourists. Archie was born with a fear of open spaces and always carries an umbrella around. Though he tried therapy for years, it didn't help and he has adjusted life to his fear. Archie is also a writer for the local newspaper. When a photographer comes to shoot Outlandish, Archie and her assistance Tallie strike up a friendship. The writing was good and the illustrations in the book were adorable. The whole concept of the book itself is really quaint and cute. I think it's targeted at a younger audience than me though which might be why I didn't enjoy it as much. I also got pretty bored reading about it. It's just not exciting to read about other people's lives and aspirations when they do normal things like I do normal things to and it's just tedious to me to read about him being friends with Tallie and getting his book published. I do appreciate the effort behind the book though and just want to say that even though it's not for me it was really adorable and I do think someone else may enjoy it a lot more. I was thinking about looking at the soundtrack but then I got lazy so I can't say how that was but I'm sure it only adds to the experience of the book.

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### **Lisa Aiello says**

This was a sweet, enjoyable read. Our hero, Archie, is afflicted with a condition that doesn't allow him to look up without panic attacks. But, he hasn't let that keep him down. No, he has adapted and is living life as large as he possibly can given his limitations. Archie is perfectly imperfect. He accepts who he is with grace, humor and peace. His parents are so supportive, loving and nurturing, and allow him to grow into his own. He is struggling to find his own way in life and meets Tallie, who is charmed by his humor, his acceptance of himself, his gentlemanly and godly ways. I, too, was charmed by Archie's ways. This is just a beautiful, simple story and is summed up by this quote: Not every life looks the same. Different doesn't mean less significant or less potential. If you want a quick read that will just make you feel good on the inside, then take a chance on this one.

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### **Silas Kraft says**

Archie of Outlandish is one of my favorite books I've ever read for many reasons. It has everything a good story needs. Two of which are interesting characters that develop throughout the book and an appealing place in which the plot can evolve. The writing itself is descriptive, which adds ease to the reading experience.

I've read this book multiple times and have enjoyed it thoroughly each time.

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### **Ruth Beasley says**

'Archie of Outlandish', has easily become my favorite book, namely for the characters and the things they learn throughout the book. I can hardly relate to many of the characters in age, or relationship status, and yet I still find myself understanding and relating to many of the points made in this book.

My other favorite thing would be Tallie's and Archie's love story. Personally, I think, that it's the best love story ever been put in a fictional story. Yes they have some relationship problems, but the way they work them out and the way they started are so realistic, and yet so sweet and understandable.

Whether you want to read a romance, an inspirational story, or just a fun book, you should definitely read 'Archie of Outlandish'.

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### **Hannah says**

Archie of Outlandish is a heartfelt and beautiful book, made even more special by its illustrations and accompanying soundtrack! The story is truly charming, from Archie's life under an umbrella (due to his fear of looking up), to his meeting Tallie the photographer, to the descriptions of the unique town of Outlandish and the people who live there. I thoroughly enjoyed this book (especially reading about the kindness of all the characters and the amazing food made by Mrs. Plumby!), and highly recommend it!

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## **Lynnette Kraft says**

### **KIRKUS REVIEW—**

"In Kraft's romance, two quirky 20-somethings embrace each other's weirdness.

Outlandish is an idyllic, whimsical beach town on the northern coast of California. Cars aren't allowed; leisurely bicycling is encouraged; and fine dining is abundant. Archibald "Archie" Plumby has spent the entirety of his blissful but sheltered life within the cozy confines of Outlandish, writing for a local newspaper and eating at his mother's upscale restaurant. Born with a rare phobia of looking up, Archie carries an umbrella with him everywhere and even has a crawl space-like bedroom with lowered ceilings. While dining alone in his mother's restaurant at his special table (fashioned with a giant indoor umbrella), he meets Tallie Greenleaf, a young photographer visiting Outlandish with her boss, famous photojournalist Gemma Perrelli. Though Archie is shy and constantly at war with his frequent panic attacks, Tallie's warm demeanor puts him at ease, and they quickly become friends. As they grow closer, however, Archie suspects ulterior motives from Ms. Perrelli after she discloses her fascination with young adults in love. Kraft's (Ingrid, 2014, etc.) novel is a quick, absorbing read full of thought-provoking dialogue and warm moments between not only Archie and Tallie, but Archie and his parents as well. Accompanying the text are full-color illustrations and an original soundtrack of dramatic instrumentals. These imaginative add-ons work to create the unique atmosphere of Outlandish. While the narrative of young love between two people who feel somewhat alienated from "normal" life is tender, what stands out is the insistence of Archie's parents that his condition not be seen as a disability but rather as a special and defining character trait that should be celebrated.

Offbeat, emotionally engaging, and authentic." —Kirkus Reviews

### **INDIEPICKS MAGAZINE REVIEW—**

"Get ready for this "new adult" romance full of twenty-something angst, quirk, irony, and very witty banter. Archie of Outlandish is a sweet, perfectly clumsy love story. Archibald Plumby is a young man living in a seaside tourist town called Outlandish. He enjoys a seemingly comfortable life, with supportive parents and a job he enjoys. He even makes regular trips to the beach. However, he does have one major obstacle to contend with. He can't look up. No, really. He can't look up. One glance skyward into an open expanse, or even a very high ceiling, causes myriad physical symptoms for Archie. Thus, he lives his life always under a low ceiling, or at the very least, never without his trusty umbrella to stave off vertigo and panic. Archie manages life with his condition well. That's all until one day he meets a young woman who really loves that umbrella. Tallulah Z. Greenleaf is a photographer and the unexpected thing in Archie's otherwise very expected life. Archie is a lovely soul and the romantic tale here is a delightfully gentle read." —IndiePicks Magazine

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## **Cecily Kraft says**

Archie of Outlandish is a really cute story about a man named Archibald Plumby who has a fear of looking up into open spaces. He meets a girl named Tallie, a photographer, who is drawn to him, because of his umbrella.

I love this story. It's so beautifully written and inspiring. If you love reading fun and enjoyable books, I

highly recommend this story!

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### **Harrison says**

Archie of Outlandish is a charming, fun, and romantic book. Archie has a great family, who loves him and cares for him. He has a condition where he can't look up, but is content with it.

One day he meets a girl named Tallulah Z. Greenleaf (Tallie), a photographer and together, they find they're way. The illustrations are magical, and the music is spectacular!

This book is fantastic, amazing and lighthearted. ?

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