



JASMINE is perfect. Good at speaking, confident, reliable, good at most subjects, and very pretty, she is the obvious choice for everything.

NICOLE is average. So average. But Cinderella is her most favourite fairy story ever.

What if she gave it a try?

Too bad, someone is determined to stop her.

REVIEWS

- **NZ Herald 16 March 2002**

A positive story for young teen girls, about confidence and courage, and how to rise above bitchiness by being true to yourself. Twelve-year-old Nicole badly wants to be Cinderella in her upcoming school production. But how can she possibly hope to compete for the role against gorgeous, super-confident Jasmine? Most people assume the role is Jasmine's for the asking. Should Nicole be so bold, and what will happen if she actually succeeds? How will Jasmine behave then?

- **Trevor Agnew, Magpies Magazine May 2002**

This may be Tania Roxborough's best story yet. Nicole (13) gains enough confidence from successful public speaking to try drama. She auditions for the title role in Cinderella. All the familiar troubles that dog school productions are encountered, from forgotten lines to opening night nerves, but Nicole copes with the challenges and learns something about herself. One character seems to have wandered in from an old coy of Girls' Crystal, but the other people are all convincing and I enjoyed the scenes of farmhouse family life. There is a magic moment when Nicole's father realises that his daughter has a really good singing voice. I also enjoyed Nicole's research into why her father fainted when she was born, and the antics of her high-maintenance dog. Readers in the ten to fourteen age range will find much to enjoy in Limelight.

- **Around the Bookshops**

Two very different Year Eight students, Nicole and Jasmine, want the lead in the school play and it seems that one of them is not going to let anything get in the way of achieving this. Schemes that fall through; boyfriends; dressing up; gaining confidence and everyday life in a classroom make up a story that will be enjoyed by most girls (this was not written with boys in mind!) who are looking for a light by satisfying read.

- **Ruby Gregory, The Northern Advocate, 26th February 2003**

This story is about a girl called Nicole who is determined to be Cinderella in the school production because Cinderella is her most favourite fairytale story. But Jasmine is perfect and she is very confident. Andrea, Jasmine's best friend, is going to try everything to stop Nicole from getting the part. So, who is going to be Cinderella?

I like this book because it is really exciting and I can just imagine the story happening. It was easy to read and I enjoyed it a lot. I don't think anything needs to be improved but I wish that it had been just a bit longer because I really liked the story and wanted it to keep going. I also really love the photograph of Nicole on the cover because I could look at it and imagine her in the story. Rating out of 10:9
