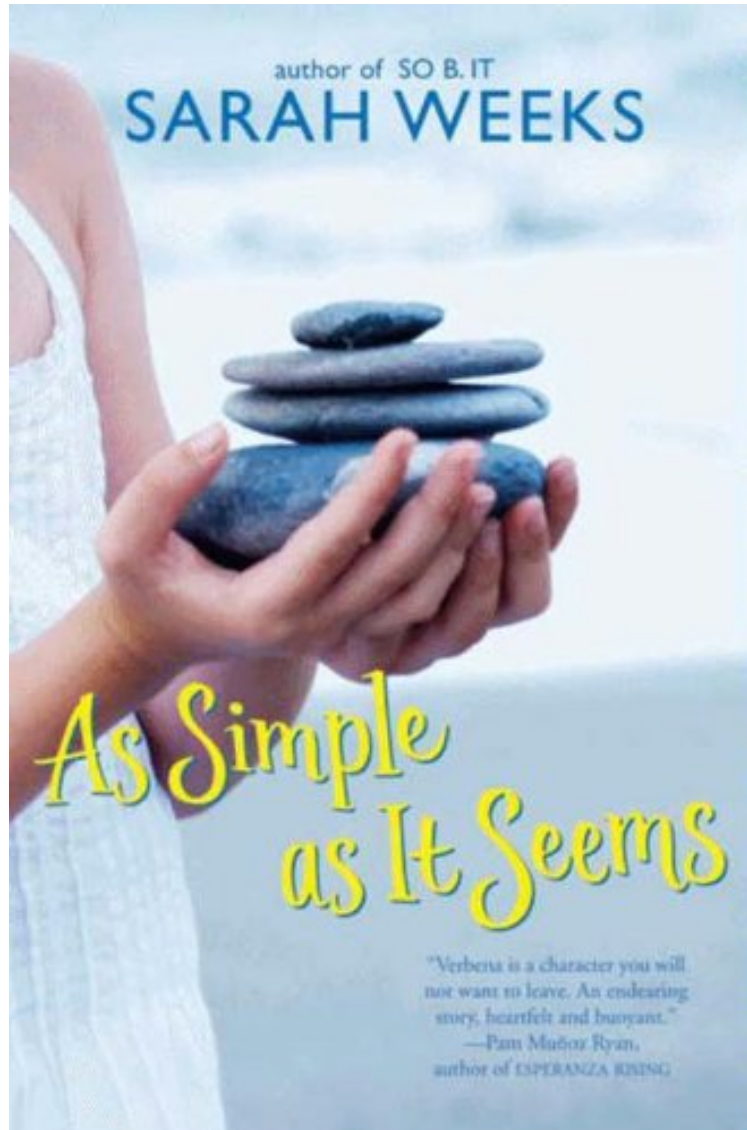


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## As Simple as It Seems (Laura Geringer Books (Paperback))

Von Sarah Weeks

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Produktinformation Veröffentlicht am: 2010-06-10 Erscheinungsdatum: 2010-06-15 File Name: B003QP4BIS | File size: 61.Mb

**Von Sarah Weeks : As Simple as It Seems (Laura Geringer Books (Paperback))** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised As Simple as It Seems (Laura Geringer Books (Paperback)):

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Courtesy of Teens Read Too Von Teens Read Too Verbena "Verbie" has always been different. She is tiny, and she looks different than the other kids she comes across in school and elsewhere. It isn't until she learns that she's adopted that things

begin to make sense. Verbie's adoptive parents love her dearly, but when she is told about her biological parents, Verbie begins to act out. It's not easy to learn that her mother drank heavily during her pregnancy, causing Verbie to suffer from fetal alcohol syndrome. She was underweight and remained smaller than most of her classmates, and her upper lip is strangely smooth. Verbie also discovers that her father broke a man's neck in a fit of rage and is now in jail. It's no wonder that she's angry and lashing out at everyone around her. When a New York City woman and her young son rent the empty house next door to Verbie, she thinks maybe this summer will be different. Unfortunately, the first interaction with the new neighbors involves the city woman throwing rocks at and threatening Verbie's three-legged dog. Verbie ducks for cover and decides to steer clear of these vicious people. Rumor has it that the long-empty house is haunted by a previous resident, a little girl who drowned in the nearby lake. Verbie's first contact with the city boy comes when he stumbles across her checking out an old rowboat stuck in the mucky shoreline. Verbie is dressed in her white nightgown, dirty and torn from her hike through the woods to the lake. The young boy mistakes her for the ghost of the little girl, and Verbie doesn't deny his assumption. The boy introduces himself as Pooch, and together they decide to try to fix up the old boat. What follows is a heartwarming story about friendship and self-discovery. Author Sarah Weeks has followed up her extraordinary novel *SO B. IT* with one equally as good. *AS SIMPLE AS IT SEEMS* is perfect for middle grade readers. Weeks portrays Verbie struggling with the new knowledge of her past and the roller coaster emotions of feeling different in a way that will have readers eagerly turning pages. Reviewed by: Sally Kruger, aka "Readingjunkie"

**Kurzbeschreibung** Verbena Colter knows she's bad news. Trouble from the get-go. How could she not be, with parents like hers? Her mother practically pickled her before she was even born, leaving Verbie to struggle with the effects of fetal alcohol syndrome. And her father was just plain mean. Verbie wishes she could be somebody, anybody other than who she is. Enter Pooch, a flatlander boy visiting for the summer. When Pooch and his mom rent the house next door, Verbie takes the opportunity to be someone else entirely. And what starts out as a game leads Verbie into a surprising and heartwarming journey of self-discovery. Another gem from the author of *So B. It*. **Pressestimmen** There are many passages that could jump-start a booktalk and get this into kids hands. (School Library Journal) Life and death weave together in strange ways one summer for twelve year old Verbena Colter. Sarah Weeks tells her story with warmth, grace, and deep compassion. A stunning novel about life's many complications and how we struggle to grow up, into ourselves. (Brian Selznick, author and Caldecott winning illustrator of *THE INVENTION OF HUGO CABRET*) Verbena is a character you will not want to leave. An endearing story, heartfelt, and buoyant. (Pam Munoz Ryan, author of *ESPERANZA RISING*) Young readers will recognize their struggles to grow and understand their own lives, while laughing, and crying along the way. Nothing simple here; just fine writing. (Avi, Newbery Medal-winning author of *CRISPIN: THE CROSS OF LEAD*) **Kurzbeschreibung** Verbena Colter knows she's bad news. Trouble from the get-go. How could she not be, with parents like hers? Her mother practically pickled her before she was even born, leaving Verbie to struggle with the effects of fetal alcohol syndrome. And her father was just plain mean. Verbie wishes she could be somebody, anybody other than who she is. Enter Pooch, a flatlander boy visiting for the summer. When Pooch and his mom rent the house next door, Verbie takes the opportunity to be someone else entirely. And what starts out as a game leads Verbie into a surprising and heartwarming journey of self-discovery. Another gem from the author of *So B. It*.