*The Last Song* Nicholas Sparks Reviewed by: Emily Cruse, 20 Star Teen Book Reviewer of Be the Star You Are! Charity www.bethestaryouare.org

*The Last Song*, a very popular book. Wow, I loved it; another tear-jerker (happy tears and sad). A young and rebellious 17 year old girl named Ronnie, who didn't handle her parent's chaotic divorce too well. Her dad, who she has refused to communicate with since the divorce 3 years ago, invites her and her younger brother to go spend the summer at his beach house; however it is the last place that Ronnie wants to spend her summer. Not happy about the trip, Ronnie is forced by her mom to go anyways. As Ronnie goes into the trip with a bad attitude, her dad desperately tries reconnecting with her. Without spoiling the book, the summer she spends with her brother and father was filled with heartache, happiness, trials, tears, and joy (maybe she even meets a handsome young man). It is definitely an unforgettable story that is good all the way to the last sentence.

This book shows all different types of aspects of love, mainly the love between a parent and a child and a first love. As far as the characters, I loved Ronnie, despite being angry about how childish she was acting towards the beginning. I love how the author didn't try to make her out to be a perfect person, but showed that she was able to learn from her mistakes. Steve, Ronnie's father was very patient with Ronnie and her behavior; which is why he was definitely one of my favorite characters. I truly enjoyed the book. I love a good book that can keep me on the edge of my seat. The only thing I can say I didn't like about the book was how slow the story line was, made me very anxious at times.

I think *The Last Song* is a great book for teens, and younger readers. I'm sure that any young girl would enjoy receiving this book as a gift. Books relatable that I would recommend would be: *Endless Summer*, *The Wedding* and *The Guardian*.