

**Title: *Heretics Anonymous***  
**Author: Katie Henry**  
**Perspectives Category: Religion and Beliefs**

**Respondent Name and Grade: Matthew J., 9<sup>th</sup> Grade**

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*What is the main plot of this book?*

*Heretics Anonymous* by Katie Henry is a comedy about Micheal Ausman, an Atheist who winds up in a Catholic school because of his father's job. While in school he joins a group called the Heretics Anonymous, and falls in love for the leading member, Lucy. Heretics Anonymous decides that they should do something about the school's ridiculous rules, and ends up in a "war" against the St. Clare's Crusaders, a group who wants to keep the school as it is.

*Which character did you most identify with and why?*

I identify with the character of Micheal Ausman, because he, like myself, is an Atheist who doesn't believe in a higher power. According to the text, "And I guess that makes me a triple heretic," I say, "because I don't believe in anything." (Henry 43). This shows that Micheal is an Atheist.

*What do you believe is the main message of this book?*

I think the main message in this book is that no matter our beliefs, we should all strive to make the world a better place.

*Do you think the main message of this book was effectively integrated into the story, or did it come across as to "preachy"?*

I think the main message of this story wasn't "preachy", however, I think that the overall message wasn't relayed in the best possible way.

*If two or more perspectives on an important topic were explored/presented in this book, which one did you agree with and why?*

I would agree with the Heretics Anonymous' point of view, as I do think that we shouldn't discriminate against someone who is of another faith than yourself.

*In what ways (if any) were your beliefs about a topic changed or reaffirmed through reading this book?*

*Heretics Anonymous* reaffirmed my belief that we should accept people regardless of religion and faith. For example, "We believe in one fundamental truth: That all people, regardless of what they worship, who they love, and what they think Have a right to exist, and a right to be heard. We strive to make faith consubstantial with reason and compassion, Through which all good things are made" (Henry 2) This quote comes from the second page of the book, which holds the manifesto for Heretics Anonymous.

*What perspective, if any, do you think was missing from this book?*

I don't think any major perspectives are missing from this book, it does a pretty good job of portraying the alternate viewpoints of the Catholic school, and the Heretics  
Anonymous.

*Did this book encourage you to pursue any topics further through more reading, research, action, ect, and if so, how?*

No, this book didn't encourage me to further research any topics.

*What type of reader would you suggest this too?*

I would recommend this book to someone who enjoys comedy and doesn't know much about Christianity and Catholicism, as this book provides an introduction to Christianity, while being a good narrative.

*What other book(s) have you read that you think would make a good addition to this category of the Perspectives Bibliography, and why?*

None of the books I read would make a good addition. I don't usually read books about religion, and the books that I have read are already in this section.