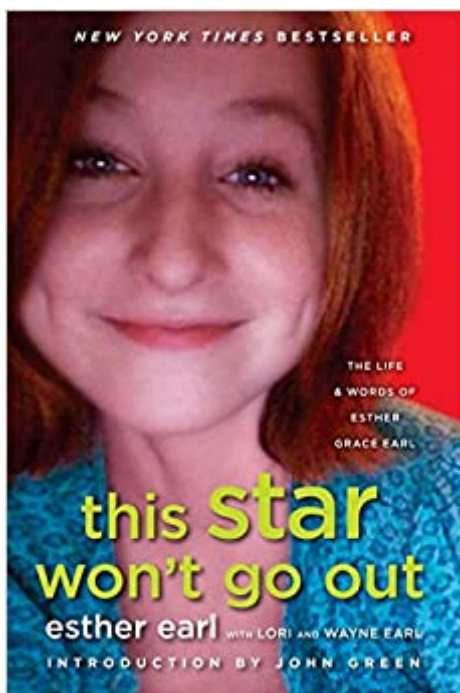


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# This Star Won't Go Out: The Life And Words Of Esther Grace Earl



## Synopsis

New York Times Bestseller! “This moving read will have you reaching for the tissues and smiling with delight. Stunningly alive on the page, Esther shows that sometimes the true meaning of life—helping and loving others—can be found even when bravely facing death.” —People Magazine, 4 stars  
In full color and illustrated with art and photographs, this is a collection of the journals, fiction, letters, and sketches of the late Esther Grace Earl, who passed away in 2010 at the age of 16. Essays by family and friends help to tell Esther’s story along with an introduction by award-winning author John Green who dedicated his #1 bestselling novel *The Fault in Our Stars* to her. Learn more about Esther at [tswgobook.tumblr.com](http://tswgobook.tumblr.com).

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 960L (What’s this?)

Hardcover: 448 pages

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Product Dimensions: 6.4 x 1.6 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 213 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #196,055 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #6 in Books > Teens > Social Issues > Death #17 in Books > Teens > Biographies > Literary #35 in Books > Teens > Social Issues > Family

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

Gr 7 Up—Through letters, journal entries, blog posts, stories, poems, and drawings, readers get to know the life and times of Esther Grace Earl, the young woman to whom John Green dedicated *The Fault in Our Stars* (Penguin, 2012). Although she died from cancer in 2010 at only 16, Esther (known affectionately as “Star” by her family) was a prolific writer, a “nerdfighter,” a “Harry Potter” enthusiast, and a deeply spiritual person. She inspired—and continues to inspire—several online communities and a dedicated Internet fan base. This unique title will

be appreciated by fans of John Green and those looking for an uplifting and emotional tear-jerker. —Kiera Parrott, School Library Journal

Esther was 16 when she died from complications of thyroid cancer in 2010. By that time, she had become a fixture among the Nerdfighters, a community dedicated to intellectualism and creativity, created by YA author John Green and his brother, composer Hank Green, via their popular YouTube channel, the Vlogbrothers. She loved Harry Potter-themed wizard rock music and Doctor Who, and she was part of Catitude, a group that ran the Project for Awesome, a Nerdfighter charity campaign. John Green dedicated *The Fault in Our Stars* (2012) to Esther, and in his introduction to this memoir, he notes that while he's proud of *Fault's* success, "the one person I most want to read it never will." Featuring essays from friends, family, and doctors and curated by her parents, this collection is part autobiography, portfolio of her fiction and drawings, and photo album. It is a touching eulogy, and it fulfills her dream to be an author. An intimate portrait of a vibrant, deeply engaged teen, this title reveals the power of the internet as a mode for connection, which comes through with each reproduced chat session and blog post. As the Nerdfighters say, rest in awesome, Esther. Grades 7-12. --Courtney Jones

Let me start off by saying that I am a 45 year old mother, a teacher, and no stranger to tragedy or cancer. I chose to read this book as a follow up to *A Fault in Our Stars*, to be able to connect with my 17 year old niece, and because of a write up in *People* magazine. Esther would have been pleased to know that the one word I would use to describe my feelings is *Affected*. After reading, I went on YouTube and watched some of Esther's videos. Then I texted my niece. I am affected by this wonderful person that I never knew. And I know I will be telling more people to read her story, knowing it will affect them, too. Esther, your star is still lit. I will welcome, love, and try more to be amazing and to instill these virtues in the children in my life.

I knew Esther. Not as well as anyone in Catitude knew her, but we chatted in those BlogTV live shows back in the day. She was such an amazing person, and I was devastated when she passed. I love that this book exists, as it's a way for Esther's words and writing to live on and find new people to inspire. Along with writings from her journals and blog posts, and even some transcripts from her videos, there are also stories from the Catitude members who knew her best, her friends and family, other great people that got to know her like the DeGeorge brothers and Andrew Slack,

and even her doctor. And yes, John Green writes the introduction and shares his memories of Esther, but that's really only a potential draw for those who only know about Esther through her inspiration on *The Fault in Our Stars*. The rest of us, the Nerdfighters and the potential Nerdfighters out there, are drawn to Esther. John may have introduced many of us to her, but she had a light that was all her own. I am so happy that the Earls put this book together. That we get to read Esther's unfortunately unfinished fiction along with her diary entries is such a treat. She was an amazing writer and would have gone far, I think. *This Star Will Never Go Out!*

It took me a great deal of time between reading this memoir and reviewing it. Prior to beginning this, I had my head shaved for St. Baldrick's Foundation to raise money for pediatric cancer research. It was one of the best days of my life, and at age 44, I knew this was my mission in life--to end pediatric cancer. Sadly, for Esther, and for too many children, help does not come soon enough. Esther died far too young, at the age of 16. This book should be required reading in school, and for every adult. Esther, her parents, noted author John Green, and others tell not only of Esther's life, but of her efforts to make this world a better place. It brings home the need for better treatments for pediatric cancer, better funding (the US Government earmarks less than 4% for all childhood cancers combined). This bittersweet story broke my heart. I cried so hard, I'd have to stop reading for my eyes were too full of tears to see. It made me so angry that a beautiful young lady, so thoughtful and incredible, had to lose her battle with cancer. I will continue my work to raise funds in memory of Esther, and other children who have died from this monstrous disease. You can help by visiting *This Star Won't Go Out* at <http://tswgo.org/> My fundraising efforts can be found on St. Baldrick's page [www.stbaldricks.org/participants/KristaTheBaldAvenger](http://www.stbaldricks.org/participants/KristaTheBaldAvenger)

Very good book. Helps you see death and dying through a young teens eyes. I often think they are more accepting and understanding death than an adult. As adults we have generally so much invested in our life we are living with t h work, friends and family, we find it harder to let go. Is hard to say " goodbye " . Even those of us who totally believe and know death is really a new life I. What we Christians call heaven, no more pain or sickness and joy and beauty beyond what we can even begin to imagine. It still comes down to saying goodbye to loved ones till we meet again. Esther was an awesome young girl who made many people all over find joy through her. Heaven has an awesome young lady now...

I first heard about Esther Grace Earl through reading an article on *The Fault in Our Stars* by John

Green, a book dedicated to Esther. I later came across this book while shopping for random things one day, and bought the Kindle edition because it was cheaper. I finished the book in one day, and I must say, it was one of the most thought provoking books I have ever read. One of the reasons I loved this book was the fact that Esther Grace Earl is a real person, therefore cancels out almost all possibility that she would be a Cancer Kid, a lifeless figure made of his/her disease that many authors fall back on while creating (or attempting to create) a meaningful story that turns into another Cancer Book. But if Esther Grace Earl was anything, she was not a Cancer Kid. She was YouTube Esther, Gone Too Soon Esther, Funny Esther, and she was Esther that had to deal with unspeakable hardship too early on. An Esther Grace Earl that should have gotten more years. More infinite days. And this book is a Striking Reminder that there is an infinity of Should Have Gotten Mores out there. Esther Grace Earl is only one of them. And even though she didn't live as long as this artsy, cat loving, amazing girl should have lived, this star, the star of Esther Grace Earl, will not go out.

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