

# *Don't judge a book by its cover*

*Tathmath Neera Rasheed*

This story is about a high school girl named Susie. She adored the life she led. That was, until dreadful rumours about her started to spread like a wildfire among everyone. The rumor was spread by a girl who was enraged at Susie as she was more popular and intelligent than her. It claims that Susie is an illicit child. Susie became devastated as she knew that this wasn't true but nobody believed her. Everyone looked at her with disgust, except for a girl named Veronica. She believed that Susie was telling the truth as she had been a victim of bullying due to some revolting untruths too. Veronica noticed how Susie isolated herself from everyone and how her grades started to decline. People started to call her names that were sinful or immoral.



Susie became sensitive and insecure. She was falling apart but she couldn't help herself. Little did she know that Veronica suffered the same way. Veronica wanted to help Susie since she knew that Susie couldn't get through this by herself. So, Veronica mustered up some courage and talked to Susie. They became friends instantly.

Veronica truthfully assured Susie how beautiful and precious she is every chance she gets, because she doesn't want Susie to feel the same way she'd felt when she was being bullied. Veronica stood up for Susie when a mean comment gets thrown her way. She told Susie about her shady past and how she got through everything. Veronica made her realize that life isn't always going to be a smooth ride, and that a few bumps and crashes along the way were inevitable. But in the end, everything will fall into place. So, Susie started standing up for herself more and more.

This resulted in more people respecting her. She started up to open up and laugh more. She ate and slept normally. Eventually, she became better altogether. This was the aftermath of a beautiful friendship.