



Life Expectancy **A Young Adult Novel by Alison Hughes**

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Ages: 13+

Rights available: World ex-Canada and the US

While Life Expectancy explores disability and dying, it is ultimately a story about love, meaning, and finding the courage to live fully in the face of uncertainty.

How do you go on after making a life-altering discovery about yourself?

After her Opportunity Class stages a play about her grandmother's famous novel, *Abomination*, Sophie St. John's suspicions that her family is keeping something from her are confirmed. While doing her Legal Studies homework she discovers a case, a lawsuit launched by her parents when she was born that reveals that Sophie has a serious disease, a reduced life expectancy, and that she might be very rich. Faced with the reality that she may not have much time left, Sophie ponders what it means to really live and bravely decides to face the future on her own terms.

The Author

Alison Hughes is the award-winning author of twenty books for children and young adults. Her YA novel *Hit the Ground Running* was a finalist for the Governor General's Literary Awards. Hughes' works have also won the R. Ross Annett Award and the Writers' Union of Canada Writing for Children Award, and have been nominated for numerous provincial children's choice awards. Hughes is a university writing advisor and gives workshops and presentations at schools, libraries, conferences and festivals. She lives in Edmonton, Alberta.

Praise for previous works:

Fly

"Bitingly sarcastic and darkly witty Felix is a deeply realized character...Sharp-edged verse and strong narrative construction frame a teen's realizations about the world."

— *Kirkus Reviews*

"Hughes's complex characterization eloquently rings through each observational stanza ... a seamless and immersive narrative about one teen's 'quest/ for a noble life.'"

— *Publishers Weekly*

Over the Top

"Readers will be cheering for Diva, whose humor and personality shine on the page. An encouraging tale of a preteen learning to navigate anxiety and speak up for what she needs."

— *Kirkus Reviews*



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