



For the month of January, I read *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls. I rate this book 9/10, as it was very intriguing and each new chapter brought up a new question or feeling. I recommend this to someone looking for a book with a depressing undertone and a topic that changes frequently. Jeannette, a girl who, every time her family did something illegal, moved to a new house, her poor family could barely afford. Throughout the book, Jeanette learned how to leave her belongings behind and how to grow up in a mentally abusive household. Every time her family would travel to a new home, she could only take one of the many things she cherished, such as a geode she found beside one of the worn houses she had lived in. Another time, her dad threw her cat out of the car window whilst they drove to a new home. Her parents also ignored her and her siblings' important needs, such as glasses and education.

One thing I got from the book was how her parents showed neglect in a number of different ways. One of the ways neglect is shown in the book is her parents' giving her false information, such as a hole that Jeannette and her parents dug for the glass castle her dad promised he would make her and her siblings was really only being used for other purposes, like a trash hole, and how getting a furnace for the freezing winters she had to endure is unnatural and a waste of money. Another thing I got from the book is the use of the words glass and castle in the title; glass, meaning the fragility and broken promises, and castle, meaning instability and vulnerability, both representing the family.

This book matters because many people face the same hardships Jeannette's family did, and learning how she coped with her problems could help others. However, it may be different for everyone, and fixing your problems can be difficult. This book could help others understand that solving problems for each person can lead to different solutions.