

**PROTAGONIST'S ANXIETY  
IN JOHN GREEN NOVEL *THE FAULT IN OUR STAR***

**A PROPOSAL**

**BY:**

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**SUBMITTED TO  
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## **APPENDICES**

### **1. Biography of the author.**

John Michael Green is an American author, podcaster, YouTuber, and philanthropist who was born on August 24, 1977. *The Fault in Our Stars* (2012), one of the best-selling books of all time, is one of his books and has sold more than 50 million copies worldwide. A significant shift in the market for young adult novels is attributed to Green's quick ascent to prominence and distinctive writing style. Green's work in online video is also highly known, particularly the YouTube projects he has undertaken alongside his brother Hank Green.

Green was born in Indianapolis, Indiana, and raised there before going to boarding school near Birmingham, Alabama. He attended Kenyon College and earned a double major in religious studies and English in 2000.

### **2. Summary of the novel *The Fault In Our Star*.**

After attending the support group for a few weeks, Hazel meets Augustus Waters, a seventeen-year-old boy who had his right leg removed because of Osteosarcoma. *The Fault in Our Stars* tells the story of the main character Hazel Grace Lancaster, a sixteen-year-old with thyroid cancer. While in the support group, she meets a seventeen-year-old boy called Augustus. While in the support group, Hazel meets Isaac, a boy who was partially blind from eye cancer. With advice from her mother and doctor, she goes to a cancer support group. Though asking him for an answer to the ending of his novel, Van Houten violently reacts and tells Hazel On



returning home, Augustus tells Hazel about the development discovered concerning his condition, forcing her to admit that she will lose the love of her life.

The *Fault in Our Stars* starts with Hazel, a sixteen-year-old with thyroid cancer. After visiting her doctor, Maria, she is given a flyer to attend a support group. With them being friends, Hazel introduces Augustus to her favorite novel 'An Imperial Affliction' by Peter Van Houten. Augustus receives Hazel's novel, and in exchange, he gives her his favorite, 'The Prince of Dawn.' After reading 'An Imperial Affliction,' he calls Hazel and expresses his displeasure with the novel's ending. After returning home, Isaac tells Hazel and Augustus that his surgery was successful, but he lost his eye. She gets contacted by Lidewij, who tells her about some letters that Augustus sent to Van Houten. With cancer spreading to her lungs, Hazel gets hooked to a machine that enables her to breathe. Hazel reads the letter from him, and in it, he tells her that getting hurt is a constant, but one can choose who hurts them. Initially reluctant to go, she joins the support group. She meets Patrick, a middle-aged man who is the group's leader. He tells her that he received a response from Van Houten and had begun to exchange emails with him. However, on meeting her idol, she gets faced with reality, and she discovers that he is not the person she imagines him to be. Although she gets excited, Hazel realizes that she can not travel to Amsterdam due to a lack of money and her medical condition. Hazel tells him of her plans to try and reach out to Van Houten in search of an answer to his book's ending. Augustus decides to help Hazel with her biggest dream and uses his cancer wish. Augustus reveals to Hazel that his cancer has returned and spread throughout his body. He tells her he is glad that she was his choice.

### **3. Character in the novel.**

#### **1. Hazel Grace Lancaster.**

The novel's narrator and 16-year-old protagonist. An astute and remarkably conscientious girl, Hazel was diagnosed at age thirteen with a terminal form of thyroid cancer that has since spread to her lungs. She keeps most people at a distance, knowing her death will ultimately hurt them, until she falls in love with Augustus.

#### **2. Augustus Waters.**

The sixteen-year-old with osteosarcoma who becomes Hazel's boyfriend. Augustus has a keen wit and a tendency toward performance—he revels in grand romantic gestures. Augustus almost immediately falls in love with Hazel after meeting her at Support Group.

#### **3. Isaac.**

The mutual friend of Hazel's and Augustus's who facilitates their introduction at Support Group. Isaac is cynical by nature. Blinded by cancer and kicked to the curb by his girlfriend Monica, Isaac often embodies skepticism and rage. It is worth noting that he shares his name with Biblical Isaac, who also was blind.

#### **4. Mrs. Lancaster**

Hazel's mother. She is an emotionally strong and kind woman who has made it her life to care for Hazel. During the novel Hazel obsesses over the emotional devastation that her death will cause to her mother. In the end Hazel is overjoyed to learn that her mother has secretly been taking classes to become a social worker.

## **5. Mr.Lancaster**

Hazel's father. He is caring and prone to tears. In contrast with Hazel's mother, he only understands Hazel's cancer broadly and spends much of his time at work.

## **6. Peter Van Houten**

The infamous author of *An Imperial Affliction*. Hazel and Augustus learn he is a verbose and brash drunkard who pretentiously deflects emotion with walls of intellectualism and cruelty.

## **7. Patrick**

The leader and sole adult at Support Group. He is noted for his warmth and unequivocal optimism. As a consequence of cancer Patrick lost both of his testicles, which provides some of the more cynical group members with a bit of comic relief.

## **8. Augustus's parents**

The few glimpses that we get of Augustus's parents in the novel are of kind and understanding people. They do not hesitate to vegetarianize Hazel's meal. Near the end of the novel, it means a lot to Hazel when Augustus's father whispers in her ear about how great it is that she has been involved in his son's life.

## **9. Dr. Maria**

Hazel's primary cancer doctor. She is a strong, assertive, yet empathetic physician. At one point Hazel remarks that Dr. Maria is very into giving out hugs. She convinces Hazel's parents that Hazel should be allowed to travel to Amsterdam, despite their reservations.

#### **10. Lidewij Vliegthart**

Peter Van Houten's assistant. Initially responsible for relaying Hazel and Augustus's communications to the author, Lidewij comes to act as a voice of reason for Van Houten.

#### **11. Kaitlyn**

Hazel's friend and former schoolmate. She is pretty, popular, and exemplifies what Hazel might have been like if she hadn't been diagnosed with cancer and left school. Though they are still friends, there is a palpable distance between the two girls, who occupy such divergent worlds.

#### **12. Monica**

Isaac's girlfriend and then ex-girlfriend. Monica breaks up with Isaac prior to his surgery to remove his remaining eye.

#### **13. Caroline Mathers**

Augustus's former girlfriend who died from brain cancer. Although we never meet her directly, we learn that the cancer changed her personality. She became selfish, impulsive, and cruel, especially in regard to Augustus. Caroline represents the realistic horrors associated with terminal cancer.