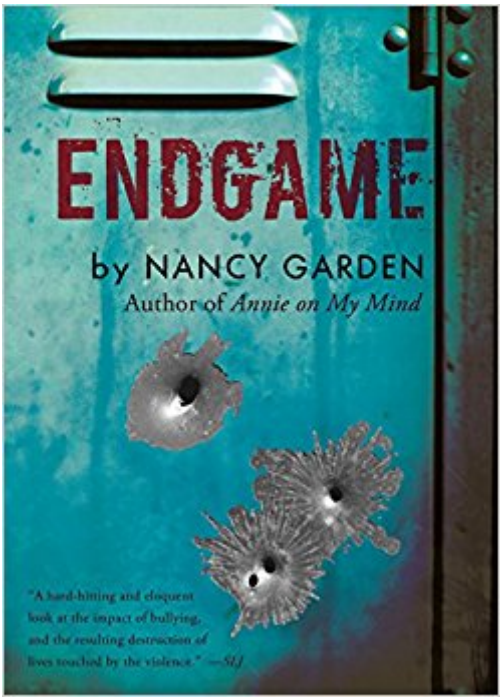
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Endgame



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Synopsis

Ã¢â ¬Å“A hard-hitting and eloquent look at the impact of bullying." Ã¢â ¬â œSchool Library JournalNew town, new school, new start. ThatÃ¢â ¬â„¢s what fourteen-year-old Gray Wilton believes. But it doesnÃ¢â ¬â„¢t take long for him to realize that there are bullies in every school, and heÃ¢â ¬â„¢s always their punching bag. Their abuses escalate until Gray feels trapped and alone. He has no power at all until he enters the halls of Greenford High School with his fatherÃ¢â ¬â„¢s semiautomatic in hand. Nancy Garden deftly explores the cruelty of bullying and its devastating effects. In this brutal, heartbreaking story, a school shooting shatters lives on both sides of the gun.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 790 (What's this?)

Paperback: 304 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; 1 edition (November 6, 2012)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.7 x 7 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 17 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #365,003 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #48 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Dysfunctional Relationships #84 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Violence #120 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Abuse

Age Range: 12 - 17 years

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Grade 8 Up Fifteen-year-old Gray Wilton is in juvenile detention, waiting for his murder trial. In a series of interviews, his defense lawyer slowly uncovers the gradual escalation of physical and emotional bullying that drove the sensitive, musically artistic kid to the point where he takes a gun to school and starts shooting. Reading the unfolding story is like watching a train wreck in slow motion: the tension is palpable, as is the sense of inevitable tragedy. Gray begins a new school year in a new town, hoping that the bullying he suffered in middle school will be a thing of the past. Almost

immediately, he discovers that there are bullies at Greenford High, and they don’t take long to find him. Teachers and administrators turn a blind eye to the harassment that he and his only friend, Ross Terrel, suffer at the hands of Zorro and the other ruling jocks. Constant hazing turns into ugly incidents of physical violence. The final blows come when Zorro and his buddies, during a joy ride, hit and kill Gray’s dog, and then try to force Ross and Gray to perform oral sex in the gym showers. The ending provides an emotional punch that is difficult to forget. This is a hard-hitting and eloquent look at the impact of bullying, and the resulting destruction of lives touched by the violence. It reinforces the need to have adults in the lives of teens who not only see, but also take action against the behavior. Libraries that own Walter Dean Myers’s Shooter (HarperCollins, 2004) or Todd Strasser’s Give a Boy a Gun (S & S, 2000) will want to add this book as it provides an emotional depth that exceeds that of previous titles. Jennifer Ralston, Harford County Public Library, Belcamp, MD Copyright Ã Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Grade 8 Up Fifteen-year-old Gray Wilton is in juvenile detention, waiting for his murder trial. In a series of interviews, his defense lawyer slowly uncovers the gradual escalation of physical and emotional bullying that drove the sensitive, musically artistic kid to the point where he takes a gun to school and starts shooting. Reading the unfolding story is like watching a train wreck in slow motion: the tension is palpable, as is the sense of inevitable tragedy. Gray begins a new school year in a new town, hoping that the bullying he suffered in middle school will be a thing of the past. Almost immediately, he discovers that there are bullies at Greenford High, and they don’t take long to find him. Teachers and administrators turn a blind eye to the harassment that he and his only friend, Ross Terrel, suffer at the hands of Zorro and the other ruling jocks. Constant hazing turns into ugly incidents of physical violence. The final blows come when Zorro and his buddies, during a joy ride, hit and kill Gray’s dog, and then try to force Ross and Gray to perform oral sex in the gym showers. The ending provides an emotional punch that is difficult to forget. This is a hard-hitting and eloquent look at the impact of bullying, and the resulting destruction of lives touched by the violence. It reinforces the need to have adults in the lives of teens who not only see, but also take action against the behavior. Libraries that own Walter Dean Myers’s Shooter (HarperCollins, 2004) or Todd Strasser’s Give a Boy a Gun (S & S, 2000) will want to add this book as it provides an emotional depth that exceeds that of previous titles. Jennifer Ralston, Harford County Public Library, Belcamp, MD (School Library Journal) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Endgame is well-written. There is no doubting the author's craft here. Her main character is spot on, and her portrayal of the anguish he feels at being bullied put me squarely in his shoes. And that's where I start having problems. The story offers no surprises. The endgame is known right from the start--the character admits he's a murderer on page 1, and there are bullet holes on the cover--and I was fine with all that. It's just that the pacing is too slow. By page eighty-eight, I'd had enough with the bullying and wanted to know what Gray had done about it, so I skipped ahead. Know what? I don't think I missed anything I needed. Ok, so the bullies apparently ran over his dog, and they tried to get him to have oral sex with his best friend, and there may be other incidents of bullying I didn't read, but I didn't need them to get the story. So, if I didn't need them, why are they there?As a side note, and this is not meant as a criticism of this story, the bullies in Endgame are extreme. I am a middle school teacher, and I deal with bullying and its effects every day, so I know that extreme bullies do exist. I just also know that it doesn't take extreme bullies to provoke extreme desperation on the part of those they torment. Contrary to the old saying (sticks and stones. . .), all it takes are words.

This story was amazingly written. I stately got right into the book and couldn't put it down until I finished it. As. Teacher this book really got me thinking about everything that I see go on in school everyday. I stop all of the bullying that I see but what is going on that I don't see or hear?this book is a great read if you want something that will get you thinking and also would be a great book for high schoolers to read on their own or as part of a class.

What a great YA book. It kept my attention and I was as surprised at the ending as the main character. I highly recommend it.

We had to buy this book for school. we have not read it yet. I am not sure what else to say.

This book was chilling and powerful all at once through showcasing the brutality of bullying and the effect it can have on individuals and an entire school. Gray Wilton moves to a new town and a new school understanding that with that comes making new friends. Although his situation doesn't seem that terrible at times, Gray's life at Greenford High School continues to only plummet further the more he endures bullying from his new classmates and it is only a matter of time until he brings his father's gun into school and begins illustrating the devastating effects of bullying.I really enjoyed the set up of this story and how it was written in an interview format with flashbacks and information

provided by Gray during the interview filling in the reader's gaps of what really happened and took place leading up to and on that day of the shooting. By being both a fast-paced read and dealing with an emotionally charged topic such as bullying, this novel was a page turner that I couldn't put down and truly captured the horrors that bullying can inspire to happen within the body of a teenage boy and the walls of a school. Although it was emotionally tough to read concerning the violence and seeming hopelessness of Gray's character, this was a truly excellent book and I would recommend it to anyone that can handle bullying as a book's content and wants to experience a story where bullying and depression go hand and hand in creating a tragedy that has plagued several schools in America today.

Endgame by Nancy FarmerSo, this book follows Gray, a freshmen in high school who seems to be a burden to his parents, his brother being the kid in the spotlight. When the family moves to another town, the family's past catches up with them. Some of the very same demons have come along.This book was decent, a story dedicated to the loneliness and suffering of a bullied, underappreciated kid. What Gray does is unthinkable, he tries to make people understand and pay for what they have done to him. The author did a good job at capturing the mental processes of someone going through such pain and loneliness as Gray--Although I think the Epilogue MAKES the book.This is a great book for anyone working (or going to work) in the school system or with kids...If you do not want to read about, or are triggered by school violence, bullying, guns, or verbal abuse, this book may not be for you.

I thought that "Endgame" was one of the most captivating books I have ever read. The way that the author depicts Gray's feelings are just so real, it is almost like Nancy Garden experienced this herself. The only negative part about reading this book was the length of it, I usually prefer a shorter read but overall, it was amazing. Garden has the power to make a reader have empathy for the main character, Gray Wilton. Gray's feelings are easy to relate to for me, and I hope that after reading this book, people really think about how serious bullying is, and how it can push someone over the edge. Although Garden wrote this novel extremely well, enough to even make MY heart race, the bullies in this story are extreme. Some of the things they do, or have Gray do are unrealistic in my eyes. But maybe it is that bad in some schools. I have seen extreme bullying but the bullies in this story have absolutely no heart, and I can not believe that actually could happen, such as the bullies running over Wilton's dog. But again, anything is possible, and some people just don't have any boundaries. After reading "Endgame" i almost felt that Gray was not at fault for the

shooting. It was also the bullies, the teachers for not doing everything they could, the peers. Others could have stopped it. Bullying can ruin relationships, families, lives. I reccommend this book to a mature reader, I really hope that everyone can take something out of this novel.

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