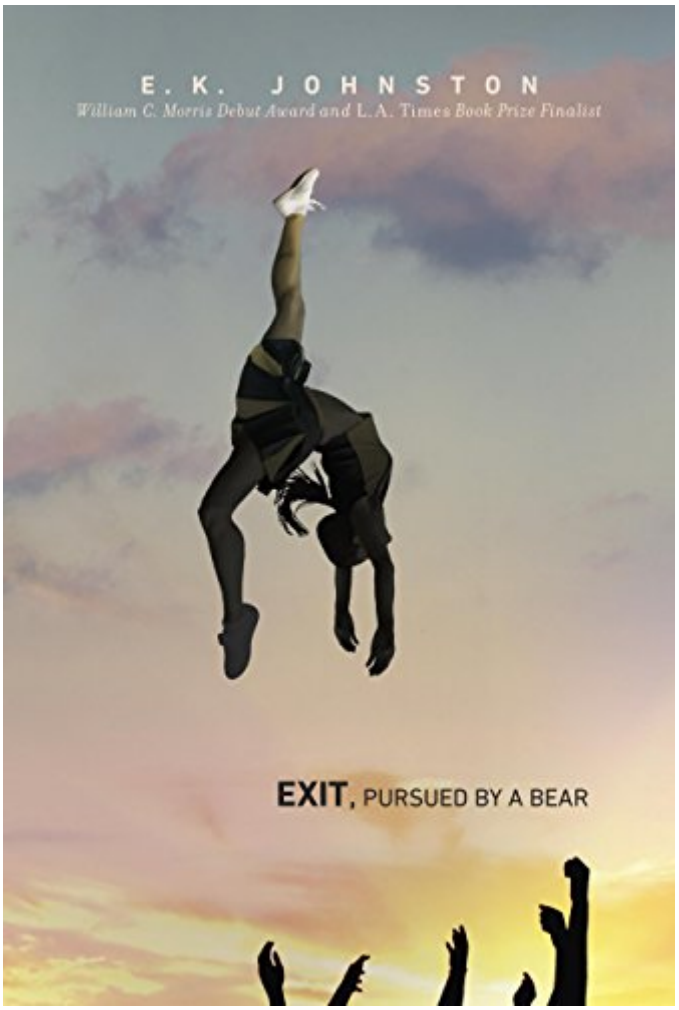
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Exit, Pursued By A Bear



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Synopsis

From #1 New York Times bestselling author E.K. Johnston comes a brave and unforgettable story that will inspire readers to rethink how we treat survivors.Ã Â Hermione Winters is captain of her cheerleading team, and in tiny Palermo Heights, this doesnÃ¢â ¬â„¢t mean what you think it means. At PHHS, the cheerleaders don't cheer for the sports teams; they are the sports teamÃ¢â ¬â •the pride and joy of a small town. The team's summer training camp is Hermione's last and marks the beginning of the end ofÃ¢â ¬Â¦sheÃ¢â ¬â„¢s not sure what. She does know this season could make her a legend. But during a camp party, someone slips something in her drink. And it all goes black.In every class, there's a star cheerleader and a pariah pregnant girl. They're never supposed to be the same person. Hermione struggles to regain the control she's always had and faces a wrenching decision about how to move on. The rape wasn't the beginning of Hermione Winter's story and she's not going to let it be the end. She wonÃ¢â ¬â„¢t be anyoneÃ¢â ¬â„¢s cautionary tale."E.K. Johnston has a seemingly limitless range.... This is realistic fiction at it's best."Ã¢â ¬â •The Globe & MailÃ Â Ã¢Ëœâ | "JohnstonÃ¢â ¬â„¢s cleverÃ¢â ¬â •but never preciousÃ¢â ¬â •update of ShakespeareÃ¢â ¬â„¢sÃ Â The WinterÃ¢â ¬â„¢s TaleÃ Â is unflinching but not at all graphic in its treatment of sexual violence....Ã Â Middle and high school readers will pass this powerful, engaging story around and around."Ã¢â ¬â •Kirkus Reviews,Ã Â starred reviewÃ¢Ëœâ | "Fierce and gorgeously drawn, this is a rape story that doesnÃ¢â ¬â„¢t focus on victimhood."Ã¢â ¬â •Booklist,Ã Â starred reviewÃ¢Ëœâ |Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“A beautifully written portrait of a young woman facing the unthinkable, this is a must-buy for high school collections.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •SLJ,Ã Â starred review"Exit, Pursued by a BearÃ Â is an important new novel comparable withÃ Â SpeakÃ Â by Laurie Halse Anderson.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •VOYA."This story of a cheerleader rising up after a traumatic event will give youÃ Â Veronica Mars-level feels that will stay with you long after you finish."Ã¢â ¬â •Seventeen MagazineA NPRÃ Â Best Book of 2016AÃ Â Publishers WeeklyÃ Â Best Book of 2016Ã Â AÃ Â BooklistÃ Â Best Book of 2016A New York Public Library 2016Ã Â Top Ten Book for TeensA Chicago Public LibraryÃ Â Best Teen Fiction of 2016AÃ Â Globe & MailÃ Â Best Book of 2016Ã Â A CBCÃ Â Best Book of 2016AÃ Â Quill & QuireÃ Â Best Book of 2016A BustleÃ Â Top 30 YA Book of 2016A BookishÃ Â Best Book of 2016A Bank Street CollegeÃ Â Best Children's Book of the YearA finalist forÃ Â AudibleÃ¢â ¬â„¢sÃ Â Best Young Adult Audiobook of 2016A 2017 Ontario Library AssociationÃ Â White Pine Honor Book

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Customer Reviews

Grade: AOne Word: StrongAfter Hermoine is drugged and raped at cheer camp, her friends, family and community rally around to support her. Although there is some gossip, her boyfriend seems to blame her for the attack. She can’t remember who attacked her, but hopes with the help of her therapist, she can bring her rapist to justice.I love so much about EXIT, PURSUED BY A BEAR, an important addition to YA literature and I wish this special novel was on every parent and teen reading list. First, Hermoine is a great heroine and narrator. She is the epitome of a survivor. Yes, she was brutally victimized, but she doesn’t run from the trauma. She feels her emotions, leans on her family, friends and professionals. She has the type of support system I only wish rape victims had. While perhaps not the norm, there are survivors who have strong support from the beginning.People sometimes don’t know how to act around victims of trauma. Look no further than best friend Polly as a role model. She allows Hermoine to have her feelings, yet bolsters her friend’s strength and courage. Hermoine’s parents provide wonderful support. In the beginning, her father is somewhat afraid of her, fearful touching her will invoke a PTSD reaction, but he comes around.

Though her parents are devastated, she never has to take care of their feelings or responses. They act like grownups with appropriate boundaries.All of the characters have strengths and weaknesses, but they are defined by their positive attributes. They stretch and grow, even when that growth is painful.I also love how Hermoine's decision to have an abortion is instinctual, that everyone including her pastor supports her decision, and that abortion doesn't have to be a sad, traumatic procedure. It can be as inconsequential as having a tooth pulled. The trauma was the rape, the abortion was a positive part of moving forward. I hope those who disagree with a woman's choice don't let this deter them from the over all message of the bookMy only criticism is the therapist is a bit too unconventional and he seems to either convince or reinforce that Hermoine's experience is so special and unique professionals make their careers on her rape. She is special and unique, not because of what happened to her, but because of who she is and how she responds after the worst trauma of her life. Therapists, cops, nurses and doctors see too many sexual assaults to count, and each is unique and special and memorable and horrific.EK Johnson is pitch perfect in the voice and writing. I hope she writes more realistic YA fiction.THEMES: rape, sexual assault, sexual abuse, cheerleading, friendship, family, community, recovery, abortionEXIT, PURSUED BY A BEAR is an important read for teens and everyone who cares about them.

SO powerful. So beautiful. So intense. I enjoyed the character dynamics in the opening, but then from the moment the crisis hit (about 50 pages in), I suddenly COULD NOT STOP READING from then until the end of the book.I love the heroine, Hermione, so much. I love her wonderful friends and family and support system so much. I cheered for her SO fiercely. And this book made me care desperately about cheerleading, too! Hermione is an intensely committed athlete, and I was ALL in as she fought to win and NOT be defined by what had happened to her.I can't remember the last time any book made me cry so much, but it was fiercely - FIERCELY - uplifting, too.I'm so glad I read it.

Hermoine seems to have it all. Co-Captian of the cheer squad and ready to begin her senior year at high school. All that is ripped away from her when she wakes up in the hospital with no recollection of what happened except being giving a drink by a boy she barely saw.While the writing was wonderful, I wish that every rape victim had the strength to be as well adjusted as Hermoine did. She had a fantastic support system (mom, dad etc) which was a little unrealistic to me (unfortantley)

When I finished this book, I was both so angry and so uplifted at the same time; I'm so angry that

this experience and these resources and this support aren't there for every girl who survives sexual assault and reality, and so grateful that this book is there so that they all know exactly what they deserve. Johnston's writing is taut, gripping, and beautiful, and Hermione is such a wonderful character--honest, strong, vulnerable, grieving, and utterly, palpably real. And I wish that every survivor out there had a friend like Polly. Just wonderful.

I think it takes a lot of courage to write a book about a controversial topic for a high school girl. I think the author does an exceptional job writing an honest story about what happens in high school. While reading, I was transported back and imagined what would have happened in my own high school. You sympathize, you empathize, and you realize this is something we as parents, teachers, students, and just people need to handle better. I highly recommend it.

Well written novel that should appeal to young adults. Handles subject matter very well.

Well written and realistic dialogue for the teenagers. I read this book in two days and my biggest complaint was that there wasn't more of it. Some scenes made me want to cry others had me laughing out loud. I recommend this book for young adults everywhere.

Even as an adult, I remembered all the angst of high school, I've been cheerleader, and later in the 90s being forced into various uncomfortable situations. Good cautionary tale, but told with laughter and friendship and healing. Wish there were authors writing about this when I was a young reader. Looking forward to more books by this author.

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