



2010

### Hunger

Laurien Clay

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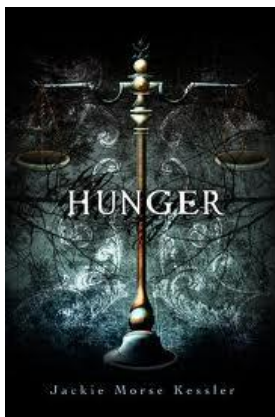
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Kessler, Jackie Morse. *Hunger*. Graphia, 2010. ISBN 9780547341248. \$8.99. 180 p.

Reviewer: Laurien Clay

Reading level: Young adult

Rating: Excellent

Genre: Fiction; Fantasy fiction;

Subject: Anorexia nervosa--Juvenile fiction; Eating disorders--Juvenile fiction; Emotional problems--Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

Lisabeth Lewis is seventeen and anorexic, but the Thin voice in her head does not tell her that. After trying to kill herself with her mother's anti-depressants, Death arrives on his pale horse to offer her the scales—and office—of Famine. Overwhelmed by this new job and her own endless self-deprecations, she struggles to balance her troubled life with her new responsibilities as the Black Horseman. As she travels the world on her black steed and encounters her fellow horsemen, Lisabeth not only learns that she can ease world hunger, but learns that she has the strength to fight her own eating disorder and to finally live her own life.

In this first installment of her Horsemen of the Apocalypse series, Kessler brilliantly fuses the realities of contemporary youth culture with core elements of fantasy to create an inspiring read. Using almost flawless prose and frank imagery, she boldly deals with problems that plague our times from world poverty to teen body image issues. Having been a victim of an eating disorder herself, the author vividly recreates the inner workings of anorexia and bulimia, and therefore this work is not for younger readers and even some teenagers. However, this book would make a great addition to any library and is highly recommended for those wanting insight into or those suffering from these diseases.

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