



2018

Camp Midnight

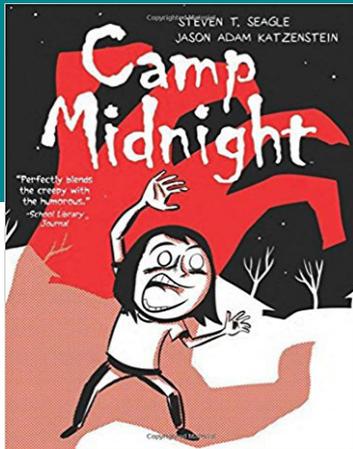
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Book Review

Camp Midnight

Author

Steven T. Seagle

Illustrator

Jason Adam Katzenstein

Reviewer

Natalie Hatch

Rating

Excellent

Level

Intermediate, Young
Adult

Pages

244

Year

2016

Publisher

Image Comics, Inc.

ISBN

9780062245519

When Skye's stepmother "monster-in-law" sends her to a summer camp, Skye is dead set on not fitting in or enjoying her camping experience. She accidentally boards the wrong bus and ends up at Camp Midnight, where everyone is a full-fledged monster. At first, Skye hides her true identity as a human, but then she realizes that being human has its ups as well as its downs. For the final contest, she announces her true form to the camp and asks Mia, her human best friend to join her in competing in the games. Skye's acceptance and friendship give Mia the confidence she needs, and Skye returns home with the hope of returning to Camp Midnight next year.

Seagle and Katzenstein make a great team in this graphic novel. The dialogue and scenes flow smoothly through the storyline, and the images complement the words. The illustrations aren't in full color, instead focusing on one color palette or only a few colors. This is a rather minimalistic approach, but one that pairs well with the topic of monsters, fear, and overarching hidden truths. Though the creators are male and the main characters female, there isn't any depth or reality of characters lost. They are able to capture the air of summer camp, the nightmares of a split family, and the power in owning who and what you are.