



2018

Grit

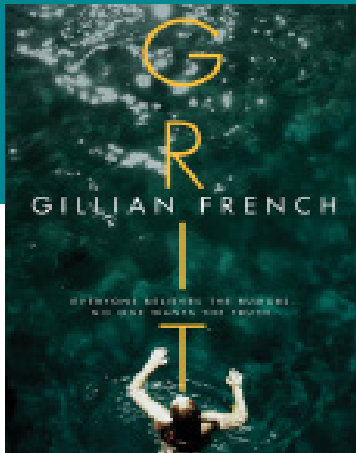
Meagan Andrus

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Andrus, Meagan (2018) "Grit," *Children's Book and Media Review*: Vol. 39 : Iss. 5 , Article 32.
Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr/vol39/iss5/32>

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Book Review

Grit

Author

Gillian French

Illustrator

Reviewer

Meagan Andrus

Rating

Dependable

Level

Young Adult

Pages

294

Year

2017

Publisher

Harper Teen

ISBN

9780062642554

Darcy Prentiss is well-known in her small town as one of the trashy girls, the town slut. She doesn't mind, as long as she can spend her days harvesting blueberries with her sister, Mags, and her cousin, Nell, and spend her nights partying at the local quarry or drive-in. But the sleepy summer Darcy imagined doesn't exactly pan out: the police find new evidence in the local missing person case, that of Darcy's ex-best friend; Darcy and Nell have a secret that gets harder and harder to keep; and some of the local boys are causing trouble not only messing with Darcy's heart but with her boss and his business. With more revelations and clues coming nearly each day, the tangled mysteries of Darcy's small Maine town slowly start to unravel, breaking relationships and ruining hopes for a better future. Darcy has to learn which secrets to keep and which to spill, and hope that her family's fragile trust in her will survive the revelations and lies.

This book is a pretty intriguing mystery, and the small-town feel the characters and setting carried is very authentic and enjoyable. Darcy is relatively likable as a main character, though she does have her faults. The biggest problem with this book was that the mysteries kept getting more and more convoluted as the plot went on, with nothing really getting resolved. The main resolution happened within the last ten pages of the book, so the ending felt rushed, leaving the reader exasperated that they had held on so long for such a quick solution to the problems. Although the ending was frustrating and not done very well, the book still has a lot of merit and carries some important messages about the dangers of small town living, secrets and when to tell them, and dysfunctional families. Readers who enjoy a good young adult mystery/thriller/drama will enjoy this book.

*Contains Moderate language, moderate sexual content, and mild violence.