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Bad Romance

Taylor Nelson

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Book Review

Bad Romance

Grace is tired of living at home with her abusive stepfather and emotionally distant mother, so when she meets Gavin, the dreamy, talented rock-god, she sees him as her savior. Grace is sure their romance is too good to be true until Gavin begins to show his true colors as a controlling, manipulative abuser. Grace finds herself spiraling, trapped in a relationship she can see no way out of. Gavin makes her burn bridges and distance herself from her closest friends, and it's not until he forces her to give up her biggest dream that Grace finds the courage to end things once and for all and start to heal.

This book takes a good hard look at abusive relationships. It is unflinchingly honest and could be triggering for people who have experienced abuse. That being said, the representation of abusive relationships it gives is honestly not powerful enough to evoke an emotional response. The writing style drags a bit, and the reader is told exactly how the story ends on the very first page, which makes the rest of the story feel anticlimactic. The main character is very dramatic and hard to like. However, the friendships in the story are wonderful and show how supportive friends can be a lifeline. Overall, this book has an important message, but not all readers will like the style.

*Contains severe language, severe sexual content, and mild violence.

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Illustrator

Reviewer

Taylor Nelson

Rating

Dependable

Level

Young Adult

Pages

368

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Henry Holt and Co.

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