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Not Even Bones

Karen Abbott

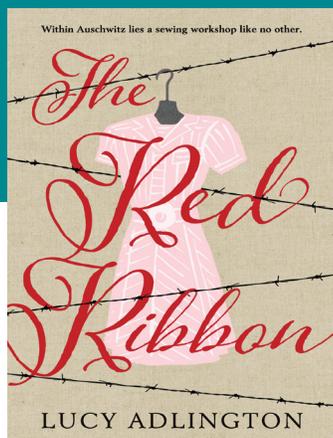
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Book Review

Not Even Bones

Nita is seventeen and has been dissecting cadavers for as long as she can remember. Her parents capture and sell body parts of human mutations on the internet to the highest bidder. Usually the bids are in the millions. The book's title comes from the fact that nothing is wasted, not even bones. Nita is abducted and finds herself on the other side of the scalpel. Left to her own devices, she fights to survive in a world that considers her unnatural.

This book is bloody, graphic, and exceptionally gory. On a level that is disturbing as it is marketed to a young adult crowd. However, the book is well written with strong characters and a riveting plot. The author creates a surprisingly relatable protagonist in Nita, whose calming technique is to imagine herself dissecting someone. The psychological aspects of the book are fascinating but horrifying. Every single character in the book is somewhere on a scale made only for psychopaths. The theme seems to be whether or not morals are useful or disposable, and it makes a strong case for disposability before deciding that they might be necessary after all. This is a book that many might enjoy, but they really shouldn't.

*Contains severe violence and severe language.

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Illustrator

Reviewer

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Rating

Excellent

Level

Young Adult

Pages

368

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