



## *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas

Reviewed by Chloe



Stand Alone Book

Urban Fiction

### **Give a summary without spoilers!**

The novel *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas is the story of a young black woman's experience with police brutality and racism. Starr Carter, a 16 year old girl, lives two very different lives: one at home, in Garden Heights, a poor, majority black neighborhood, and one at Williamson Prep, the prestigious, majority white school she attends. Forced to put on a facade at school to 'fit in', or more accurately, to not be seen as 'ghetto', Starr struggles to find balance between her life at school and at home. However, these two worlds begin to bleed together when Starr witnesses the unjust murder of her childhood friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Throughout the novel, Starr deals with her grief and the omnipresent feeling that she must bring justice to Khalil and all others who have been affected by police brutality.

### **What drew you to this book?**

I was drawn to *The Hate U Give* due to the recent reoccurring violence against people of color throughout the United States. Although the story itself is fiction, these issues are very real and I felt it was important to educate myself and look from the perspective of a person of color. Thomas' story gives very good insight on this and clearly expresses the pain and sorrow these tragic events can induce.

### **Did it remind you of something that you've previously read?**

Although more stories similar to *The Hate U Give* have come out recently, I have not read anything that reminded me of this story before. This may be due to the reluctance to talk about the issues addressed in this book: how stereotypes of people of color are used to justify racism and violence against them.

### **To whom would you recommend this book?**

I would recommend *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas to anyone wanting to educate themselves on the topic of racism and police brutality. The novel as a whole is an eye-opener and makes the reader think. Due to some violence and language, I would recommend this novel to anyone 13 or older.

**Overall, did you like it and would you recommend it to others?**

Overall, I would 100% recommend this book to others. It is extremely well written and thought out. Additionally, the different character dynamics allow for an interesting plot-line outside from the main themes of the story. Furthermore, Thomas is really good at portraying emotion in her characters, from grief and frustration, to love and compassion. These in-depth descriptions of emotion really help the reader connect with the characters and allow for a deeper understanding of the issues within the novel and in real life.

**Anything else that you would like to add to this review? What made you choose it? Did you like the cover? Was it recommended to you? Did you find it at the library?**

As previously mentioned, I decided to choose this novel to educate myself on the current violence towards people of color throughout the United States. Additionally, I saw many good reviews of it on social media. Also, I wanted to be sure to read the novel before watching the movie, because even though it is the same story, I often find myself experiencing and interpreting it differently.