



Educated by Tara Westover
Reviewed by Olivia



Memoir

Give a summary without spoilers!

The memoir *Educated* by Tara Westover is a story about building a future for oneself despite all of the odds against you. Westover describes her life growing up in a Mormon family under the beliefs of self-reliance and corrupted government systems such as public schools. Because of this, she is raised believing that her future, which is crafted by her father, includes her working as a full-time mother with no other purpose in life. Instead of following along with this degrading path, Westover changes her fate by working to find her own family and by creating an education for herself despite all the hardships she has experienced.

What drew you to this book?

The accomplishments of Tara Westover are what really piqued my interest in reading this memoir. I was thrilled and mesmerized by the idea of Westover, a girl who had all of the odds and more against her, becoming a highly successful and brilliant author. In fact, the thought of becoming an author is a dream of mine, so this book serves as motivation for accomplishing just that.

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

In a way, *Educated* reminds me of Kara from the videogame *Detroit Becomes Human*. In this game, Kara is an android who is expected to work for and appeal to an abusive father, but instead she builds a life for herself and the girl Alice whom she is working for.

To whom would you recommend this book?

Educated would be great for adolescents and adults looking for a medium-paced read and struggling with the motivation to build a life for themselves. This book is also great for people with an interest in analyzing psychological issues and the effects of neglective parents. However, the story does include triggering subjects such as verbal and physical abuse, gore, and toxic relationships, therefore making it unsuitable for those uncomfortable with said topics.

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

Overall, I believe that *Educated* is an emotional and beautiful story which should be read by both adolescents and adults alike. After reading this memoir, I personally feel assured that I am capable of accomplishing my dreams if I put enough effort into said dreams. I also want others my age to feel the same way about themselves, which is why I would highly recommend this to teenagers who are either looking for a summer reading book or struggling with a lack of motivation.

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?

I would just like to end this review by saying that I realize the book might seem daunting to those who are not as interested in reading as myself and others, but I truly believe that this book is worth a look if you wish to build your own path.