



Twilight by Stephenie Meyer
Reviewed by Nishant



Book 1 of the Twilight Saga
Fantasy, Romance

Give a summary without spoilers!

Twilight is a book about a 17 year old girl named Bella Swan moving from Phoenix, Arizona, a city filled with warm weather, to the rainy, miserable rural town of Forks, Washington to live with her father. Bella, despite expecting nothing from such an obscure and dreary town, finds amongst the supernatural, as she encounters a family of vampires. Bella becomes romantically involved with one of the members of this vampire family, named Edward, and faces the dangers of being part of a world filled with creatures who want to kill her and drink her blood.

What drew you to this book?

I initially read the *Twilight* saga when I was in 6th grade and due to the popularity and controversy surrounding the series I thought it would be interesting to revisit the series as a Junior in High School instead of an 11 year old kid.

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

Twilight, as well as the entire series in general, is honestly a completely unique story at least as far as any media I've personally encountered.

To whom would you recommend this book?

There are 2 types of audiences that make sense for *Twilight*. The first one would be people who like reading Fantasy and Romance novels, but with some caveats. *Twilight's* fantasy has an extra layer in it because it isn't just the supernatural aspects that are fantastical, but the social behavior, interactions, and decision making of the characters that are unrealistic. The way the romance occurs in *Twilight* is also not only unrealistic, but problematic especially because the flawed and obsessive "romantic" acts are just portrayed as beautiful and perfect. The fantastical elements can provide an escape from the real world, especially because of how unspectacular and relatable Bella seems to be as early as the first chapter, to an even higher degree than most fantasy stories, but it's important that readers are able to understand the problematic aspects and the divergence from what someone can realistically expect in their own lives. The word choice is probably also too advanced for most middle schoolers and younger high schoolers. The second audience that would make sense are people who completely understand the flaws of *Twilight* and look at it from a satirical lens due to how over the top the word choice can be at times and how unrealistic the events are.

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

I didn't really like it that much. As I previously mentioned, *Twilight* isn't just a fantasy from the traditional perspective, but completely unrealistic from a human behavior and social perspective. The actions that the characters take compared to their motivations just don't make sense to me and although I can see the appeal in that, it just leads to questioning every action and disliking a lot of the protagonists. The writing style isn't terrible by any means, but being so over the top all the time gets very cringy very quickly. It's also downright creepy and problematic how Edward pursues Bella through stalking and complete obsession. This wouldn't ruin the book nearly as much if it was addressed as problematic, but instead it is portrayed as deeply romantic and never acknowledged. This paints a pretty twisted facade of true romance and on top of the other issues make it very tough for me to personally like or recommend, but as I mentioned previously, there are aspects that I can see as appealing to others and the plot is certainly interesting so I wouldn't rate it 1/5 stars. Honestly 2/5 feels a little harsh, but it does definitely have more negatives than positives in my opinion.

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?

Despite my review being very negative, the plot of the *Twilight* saga is very interesting and I can definitely see why it is so popular. I found it at both my school library and the Mansfield Public Library.