



## *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas

Reviewed by Amanda



Stand Alone, Young Adult Fiction

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

*The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas is about a teenage girl, Starr Carter, an African American girl who navigates life between two worlds: her poor, predominantly black neighborhood and her mostly white prep school. After Starr witnesses the police shooting of her best friend, Khalil, the event sparks a large issue that forces her to confront difficult problems surrounding race, justice, and identity. Throughout the story, Starr deals with finding her voice and her role in seeking justice. The novel addresses systemic racism, police brutality, and the challenges of standing up for what's right in a divided society.

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

I think what drew me to read "*The Hate U Give*" is how powerful the story is. It deals with such important social issues like race, identity, and social justice. The way the book brings a personal and emotional viewpoint to topics like police brutality and issues within the justice system makes it very interesting to read. The main character, Starr, has an interesting storyline as well, as we see her character development from being a quiet girl, to one who is traumatized and broken, and then later resilient and strong.

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

"*The Hate U Give*" reminds me a lot of the story "*Nickel Boys*." Even though they were both set in different times, they both show the way the justice system is broken in America. Through the personal stories of Starr, Elwood, and Turner, we see how they all lose and gain their identities in their stories, and how they're impacted by the racism and violence around them.

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

I would recommend "*The Hate U Give*" to young readers who want to read a nonfiction story about topics that are incredibly important and relevant, like social justice and reform. I would also recommend it to anyone who would like to see how the main character, Starr deals with a traumatizing death that changes everything in her life. The book is thought-provoking, emotional, but funny, and character-driven.

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

I enjoyed "The Hate U Give" very much as it was a story that truly changed my perspective on the idea of justice in America and how just about anyone could be a victim of police brutality. Although the story was emotional, it also had many entertaining and funny moments in the story that made the story flow naturally. The book itself is not a difficult read, and so I recommend it to anyone who feels interested in the story.

**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 had first seen the trailer for the movie adaptation of "The Hate U Give" and was incredibly moved by its powerful message and storyline. After seeing it, I really wanted to read the book in order to get a better feel for the story rather than just watching the movie first. The book ended up being something I enjoyed reading a lot.