

Sadie

Courtney Summers

Reviewed by: Anika 16

Star Teen Book Reviewer of Be the Star You Are! Charity

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Sadie has lived a hard life in the small town of Cold Creek. Her mother being a drug addict and her stutter have made the idea of a normal life difficult to imagine. But she has one source of happiness in her life and that's her little sister Maddie. Sadie always took care of Maddie knowing her mother couldn't step. Sadie's life takes a turn for the worse when Maddie has been found dead. Desperate and determined, Sadie embarks on a vengeful journey to find her sister's killer. With Sadie on the run, West McCray, a radio journalist, follows her tracks, trying to find her. McCray and Sadie are both intent on finding someone, but they didn't realize that this astounding story was bigger than them both.

Sadie's story was a truly captivating one. I could not put this book down. I kept thinking about how this whole mystery would unfold, analyzing the clues in McCray's podcasts and the information Sadie found. This story drew me in and it didn't let me go until the end. It was crazy, so many things came to light and I found myself shocked when all the puzzle pieces fell into place. Courtney Summers incorporates a very important issue into her story as well. I appreciate her ability to bring light to the trauma and tragedy of sexual abuse. It's important for people understand this issue and all the suffering it causes for victims, especially someone like Sadie. The author brought Sadie and all the characters to life by giving them their own flaws, beliefs, and emotions. Sadie for one, never let her stutter stop her, even in her worst moments. Some books are told in different perspectives, which makes it difficult for the reader to follow along with the story. But Courtney Summers does an amazing job fitting the different perspectives in a way that makes sense. The different narratives left me feeling a flurry of emotions like panic, sadness, anger, and so much more. Sadie is an unforgettable story.

Despite this, there are a few things in this book to watch out for. Violence, drugs, sexual abuse, and pedophilia make a prevalent appearance in Sadie's story. For this reason, I suggest this book for anyone 16 years or older. While this book has much tragedy and negativity, it still has an incredibly important message. I highly suggest reading it. This story will whisk you away into another world, a world that is unfortunately a part of ours and is very much real. Sadie is a story of a girl seeking justice, of the love she has for her sister, and the sad reality of sexual abuse.

Recommended Titles:

All the Rage by Courtney Summers

Speak by Laurie Halse Anderson

A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini

The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini