

Pride

Ibi Zoboi

Reviewed by: Anika 17

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

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Zuri Benitez has lived in the hood for her whole life with her big family, and there's nowhere else she'd rather be. She's proud of all the loud block parties, the shouting neighbors, and the kids having fun. Zuri loves everything about her home, but home starts to lose its meaning when she begins to see her neighborhood become gentrified. It hits close to home when Zuri sees a rich African American family move in across the block, the Darcy's. Zuri wants nothing to do with the Darcy family, especially when it comes to their two handsome sons, Ainsley and Darius. But there's no avoiding it when her sister, Janae, falls in love with Ainsley. Zuri gets off to a bad start with Darius and his rude attitude. Zuri's life was already chaotic with college applications and crazy sisters, but things start to get messy when love is thrown into the mix. Zuri's life will be changed forever, and that's all thanks to the Darcy family.

Pride is a unique multicultural retelling of Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen. I certainly appreciate Pride's diverse representation and in-depth dive into different cultures. It allowed me to learn so much more about a world different from my own. Zuri and her sisters all have their own unique personalities and ways of approaching things. It was especially intriguing to read Zuri's beautiful poems. It was definitely a highlight of the novel. I also enjoyed and learned much from the important conversations Zuri and Darius had about their different backgrounds. Much like Pride and Prejudice, Pride explores the romance and class prejudice within Zuri's life, giving me an inside look into the experiences of different classes. Ibi Zoboi doesn't overly emphasize the romance within the story, allowing other elements of Pride to shine. Zuri's admirable and profound story will make a great impression on all readers.

On the other hand, readers will have to watch out for the mentions of sex, the bad language, and minor violence. Pride also came off as a rather simple and fast read. For these reasons, I would suggest this book to anyone 13 years or older. Pride would make an amazing gift for fans of Pride and Prejudice and diverse books

Recommended Titles:

Eligible by Curtis Sittenfeld

Pride and Prejudice and Mistletoe by Melissa De La Cruz

Pride, Prejudice, and Zombies by Seth Grahame-Smith

Bridget Jones's Diary by Helen Fielding

An Assembly Such as This: A Novel of Fitzwilliam Darcy, Gentleman by Pamela Aidan