

The Glare

By Author, Margot Harrison

Reviewed by: Sharanya 12

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

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After Hedda's mother goes to Australia to take care of her terminally ill friend, Hedda moves to California to live with her father. Before leaving for California, Hedda's mother constantly warns her not to use technology, or the "Glare" as she calls it. According to her mother, Hedda went "off-kilter", a decade ago, after the constant usage of screens. Hedda hesitantly agrees, and meets her father, step-mother, and half-brother. She also meets her old friends, and makes new ones, and slowly learns why she went "off-kilter". She and her friends discover that her odd behaviour, 10 years ago, was all due to a game. As Hedda gets closer to the roots of the game, she learns that the game costs not only time, but lives.

The Glare was a book that I really cherished. It eloquently portrayed how technology can be rewarding and informative, but on the other side, dangerous if not used properly. The key idea of technology is magnificently sewed with motifs of friendship and family. This combination is enlightening to all teens. Many can relate with the feeling of being torn between friendship and well-being. The Glare is a book I would recommend to 12 year olds and above. There are some mild language, and scenes of violence scattered throughout the book. The Glare would be the perfect fit for sci-fi and horror genre fans.

Recommended Titles :

Girl on the Run by Abigail Johnson

Divergent by Veronica Roth

The Martian by Andy Weir

Uglies by Scott Westerfield