

Booked

By Author, Kwame Alexander

Reviewed by: Sharanya 12

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

<https://www.bethestaryouare.org/>

Nick, a twelve-year old, who's obsessed with soccer, steps into a hard place in his life. As an impeccable athlete, he never had the respect for words and literature, which are the exact things his dad loves. This causes a rift between the two of them, but then more tension arises in Nick's life. His parents separate, and there is constant bullying that he is subjected to at school. As he tries to combat this rough patch that he has entered, the only ones he can depend on is his best friend, and unexpectedly the librarian of the school. As he grows more and more courage through the books that now provide him consolation instead of boredom, he learns that life isn't black and white, unlike the words in a book.

Booked, by Kwame Alexander is an amazing in-verse novel. The words are curated perfectly and will help any tween fight their own battle during hard times. It provides inspiration, and is completely relatable! Nick's personality comes off as a friend you can always trust, and while reading it is a treat. You always want Nick to come out strong, because Kwame Alexander masterfully wrote Nick as a very likable character. The plot covers many different topics, yet it isn't scattered like other books sometimes are. I would say any tween could read this book, as there are hard topics, and occasional violence, but it is very easy to comprehend! This would be a wonderful gift to tweens, and this read was absolutely stunning.

Recommended Titles

Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds

The Hate You Give by Angie Thomas

Ghost by Jason Reynolds

Look Both Ways by Jason Reynolds