

BOOK THOUGHTS

BATCH 35



1. Listen For The Lie – Amy Tintera
2. **My Father Was in The War** – djSoulcial
3. Late September – Amy Mattes
4. Bad Tourists – Cato Carver
5. **Medium** - Johanna Skibsrud
6. Play – Jess Taylor
7. **How You Were Born** - Kate Cayley
8. **Foreign Agents** – Casey Michel
9. **Into the Continent** - Emily McGiffin
10. **You** - Chantel Neveau

BLUE = MEMOIR OR BIOGRAPHICAL

BLACK = FICTION

DARK RED = EDUCATIONAL + HISTORICAL FICTION

PURPLE = ESSAY OR STORIES

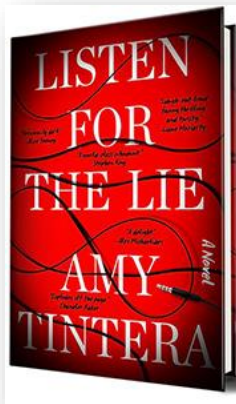
ORANGE = POETRY

LISTEN FOR THE LIE

AMY TINTERA

An absolute must-read for anyone craving a thrilling ride.

How did the book make me feel/think?



“Listen For The Lie” by Amy Tintera hijacks your senses, gripping you from the onset and refusing to let go. It’s not just my top read this year (as of March 9)—it’s a game-changer. Tintera’s storytelling prowess binds you to Lucy, a protagonist whose wit slices as sharply as her humour warms.

Tintera’s genius lies in the shadows of uncertainty she casts — each page crafts a new riddle, with Lucy’s sardonic allure amplifying the stakes. Her quirks become our touchstones as we become entangled in her trials, blurring the lines between complicity and innocence.

Dive into “Listen For The Lie” and brace yourself for a whodunit that throttles you with its audacious twists. Tintera deftly stitches humour into the fabric of suspense, guaranteeing gasps shadowed by guffaws. Unmissable and unputdownable, this is the thrill-seeker’s fix — an adrenaline-pumping journey that only slackens its pace once you’ve devoured every word.

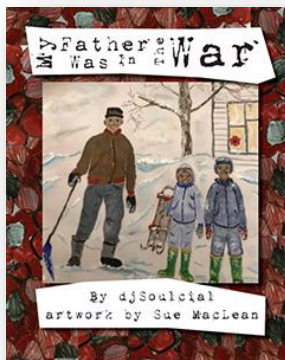
WRITTEN: 9 March 2024

MY FATHER WAS IN THE WAR

DJSOULCIAL

A poignant graphic novel/memoir delving into the effects of warfare...

How did the book make me feel/think?



“My Father Was in the War” is a poignant graphic novel/memoir delving into the effects of warfare on mental health and the struggles of soldiers who have faced battleground trauma, leaving a lasting impact on its readers.

DjSoulcial’s storytelling encapsulates the raw devastation of war, underscoring the emotional burdens carried by those who defend their way of life.

The novel focuses on the often-neglected hardships of soldiers returning from war as they combat the psychological scars of their service. It addresses the stark truth that many who have witnessed the atrocities of conflict struggle to reintegrate into civilian life and manage the trauma they have suffered.

Enhancing the narrative, the book’s exceptional artwork vividly conveys the emotional depth and complexity of the story.

“My Father Was in the War” invites readers into an engrossing, powerful tale through its striking illustrations, providing insight into the lives altered by the scourge of war. As a graphic novel/memoir, this work is a testament to the enduring impacts of conflict on mental health and the difficult journey faced by soldiers post-combat. It is a compelling work that resonates with its audience well after the last page is turned.

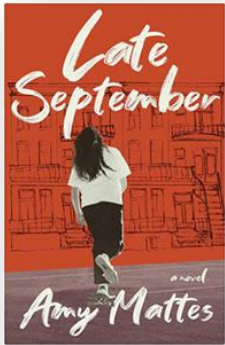
WRITTEN: 5 May 2024

LATE SEPTEMBER

AMY MATTES

A Touching Coming-of-Age Story

How did the book make me feel/think?

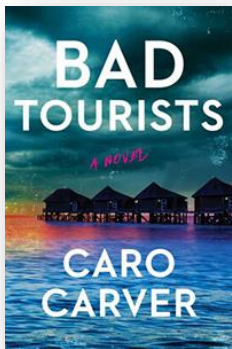


“Late September” is a touching coming-of-age story that charts the journey of Ines as she confronts the grief, self-discovery, and acceptance that come in the wake of her sister’s tragic death. Escaping her small town’s oppressive scrutiny, Ines sets out on a path of healing and self-acceptance, a journey marked by both the challenge of mental illness and the blossoming of new love.

This novel poignantly captures the universal struggle to face our innermost fears and the challenging trek toward recovery. It will resonate with readers, inviting them to reflect on their paths to self-forgiveness and understanding of others.

WRITTEN: 4 May 2024

BAD TOURISTS
CAVO CARVER



A Propulsive Thriller

How did the book make me feel/think?

“Bad Tourists” features an intricate plot with escalating tension that will captivate readers, drawing them into a world brimming with intrigue and peril. Each twist and turn reveals more mystery, leading to unexpected revelations and an adrenaline-fuelled climax. The thrilling and satisfying conclusion of **“Bad Tourists”** will resonate with readers long after turning the final page.

4

WRITTEN: 4 May 2024

PLAY

JESS TAYLOR



Compelling and evocative...

How did the book make me feel/think?

Jess Taylor's **"Play"** seamlessly blends contemporary prose with a thought-provoking psychological narrative, engaging readers and delving into the nuanced aspects of human behaviour.

The story examines our persistent efforts to surmount daunting adversities with a narrative probing deeply into the human psyche, illuminating the fragile equilibrium between beauty and toxicity and the resilience required to overcome life's hurdles. Its compelling and evocative storytelling provides a profound commentary on the human condition, encouraging readers to find comfort in anticipating a brighter future amidst the present's gloom.

WRITTEN: 4 May 2024



1234

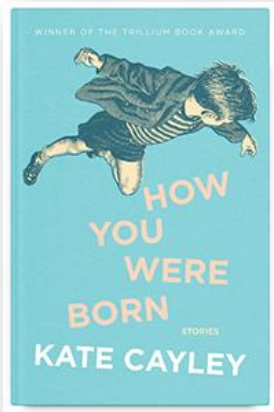
How did the book make me feel/think?

1234...

WRITTEN: ? March 2024

HOW YOU WERE BORN

KATE CAYLEY



Examining the complexities of human relationships.

How did the book make me feel/think?

Cayley's raw and honest storytelling delves into the complexities of human relationships, examining love's power to both heal and harm. Past traumas and unspoken truths entangle her characters, illustrating how our histories shape us.

In her vivid and evocative prose, Cayley expresses the heartbreak and beauty within human connections, while highlighting our inherent interconnectedness

despite differences.

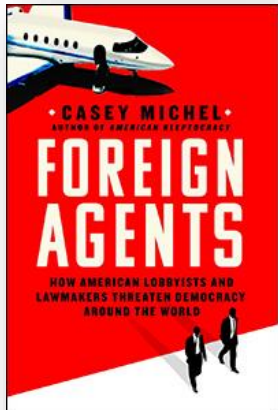
Her narratives champion the significance of empathy and understanding, offering hope for redemption and healing, even in our bleakest periods.

Cayley's work stands as a powerful reminder in a fragmented, disconnected world of the need for compassion and forgiveness. Exploring themes of love, loyalty, and memory, she underscores our collective bond through the shared experiences that define our humanity.

WRITTEN: 4 May 2024

FOREIGN AGENTS

CASEY MICHEL



1234

How did the book make me feel/think?

1234...

WRITTEN: ? March 2024

INTO THE CONTINENT

Emily McGIFF



Sounds an alarm about the ravages of advanced capitalism...

How did the book make me feel/think?

"Into the Continent" is a compelling anthology of poetry that sounds an alarm about the ravages of advanced capitalism on our environment and all life forms.

This lyrical odyssey escorts readers through the wreckage wrought by unchecked greed and overconsumption, casting a spotlight on the societal inequities and ecological devastation that afflict our world.

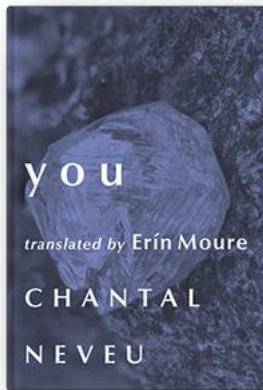
The verse encapsulates humanity's fatigue and despondency when confronted by the magnitude of such ruin and the pressing imperative for transformation.

The imagery is striking and persuasive, illustrating the grim reality of an Earth teetering on the edge of ruin. Yet amidst the dire narrative, these poems weave, a beacon of hope flickers. The impetus to rise, mend our planet's injuries, and safeguard our environment is powerfully conveyed, instilling in readers the belief there remains time to effect meaningful change.

WRITTEN: 5 May 2024

YOU

Chantell Neveu



An Enchanting Love Poem

How did the book make me feel/think?

“YOU” is an enchanting love poem with the graceful beauty of its simple words and verses. It delves deeply into the heart of human desire and the deep-seated yearning for a meaningful connection, capturing the quintessence of love poignantly and profoundly.

The poem thoughtfully navigates the complexities of relationships and the craving for a deep emotional bond.

Through its refined use of language and imagery, “YOU” vividly illustrates the powerful connection between two souls and love’s ability to bridge all divides.

The verses flow seamlessly, coaxing readers to delve into the emotional tangle it weaves. The evocative imagery conjures a sense of closeness and ardour, providing a window into the intense feelings that can only be aroused.

In summary, “YOU” is a moving and impactful poem that extols the beauty and complexity of love, reminding us of the formidable influence of human connection and the significant role love plays in our existence.

WRITTEN: 5 May 2024

10