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Run



Synopsis

Bo Dickinson is a girl with a wild reputation, a deadbeat dad, and an alcoholic mom. Everyone in town knows the Dickinsons are a bad lot, but Bo doesn't care what anyone thinks. Agnes Atwood has never stayed out past ten p.m., never gone on a date and never broken any of her parents' overbearing rules. Rules that are meant to protect their legally blind daughter - but Agnes isn't quite sure what they are protecting her from. Despite everything, Bo and Agnes become best friends. And it's the sort of friendship that runs truer and deeper than anything else. So when Bo shows up in the middle of the night, police sirens wailing in the distance, desperate to get out of town, Agnes doesn't hesitate to take off with her. But running away and not getting caught will require stealing a car, tracking down Bo's dad, staying ahead of the authorities, and - worst of all - confronting some ugly secrets. A story about the ferocity of friendship and the risks we'll take to save our friends ... And ourselves.

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Customer Reviews

Agnes and Bo are polar opposites. Bo is from the family with the town's worse reputation

and has the freedom to do whatever she wants and has her own bad reputation of sleeping around according to the rumors. Agnes is a blind girl with only one friend who along with her family thinks she always needs protecting. Agnes and Bo meets and despite being polar opposites become good friends. Bo doesn't see Agnes as a poor little blind girl who needs protecting and Agnes despite believing the rumors grows to learn Bo is a good person and sees her as a person who is willing to take her places and rebel in ways she never has before. One night Bo calls Agnes and tells her she's leaving and Agnes begs her to take her with her so they steal Agnes's sister Gracie's car to find the father Bo doesn't really know for what Agnes thinks is to get money from but Bo has her own agenda. Yes like some reviews state the friendship is a bit instant but in this situation it's realistic since both of the girls were really lonely and missing something in their lives so it was natural they would attach on to each other. There's very little romance in this book, it's mainly a friendship book. I loved the friendship between the two girls and the characters despite them being whiny at some points. I understood Bo's whininess over Agnes whose whining was about how she had no freedom and her parents always thinking she needed protecting because all Agnes had to do was stand up for herself and Bo was a bit helpless since there wasn't much she could do about her own situation. The ending was a bittersweet. The call between Bo and Agnes towards the end of the book reminded me of the song "For Good" in the musical "Wicked" that goes "Who can say if I've been changed for the better but because I knew you I have been changed for good." Because that seemed to be the message of the entire book and their whole friendship. Overall I loved this book. I finished it in a week which considering my busy schedule says a lot about it. I went in this book thinking I wouldn't like it since Kody Keplinger's books aren't normally the type of books I like but this one is different and at the level of Deb Caletti. When I read the acknowledgements which I have to be honest and say I never do, it seems like the character Agnes kind of hits home with her so I guess it really is best to write what you know. I hope to see more books like this by the author! Grade: A-

In a world where appearances, stereotypes, and assumptions are everything, the truth can be hidden under a hard shell and practiced a defense mechanism. This book is part road trip, part self discovery, part finding courage, part learning how to live, and all about the value of freedom and friendship. As a romance reader, I'm looking for that impossible love. Because when it's well written, I can feel it as I read it. This book made me want to call up all my girlfriends and tell them I love them. There is huge depth in this book, between two friends from opposite ends of the social scale

who find something they need in each other. This book is about risking everything for a friend, because romantic love is great, but friendship is lasting, and finding what you really need to live is freeing. I wish there were six stars. This book deserves it.

Interesting premise but lacks depth. Love the characters at first then they turn sour on me. Love the female bond concept.

I liked the two alternating timelines/narrators here, and this is such a wonderful friendship story. Lots of themes of people being different than others assume and trying to write your own story.

Such a good book. Probably her best one yet.

An excellent book.

Kody Keplinger's *Run* is a novel about two very different teenage girls who discover and encourage their individual strengths and that allow each one to take charge of their own life. Narrated in the first person and alternating between the two girls' voices, this novel is unflinching as it addresses the impact judging others may have on those being judged. "You don't realize how much people underestimate you until they start estimating you" and "Whatever you don't do, the town will say you did anyhow" In Mursey, Bo Dickinson is known as one of those Dickinsons "a n'er-do-well, trailer park trash, law-breaking family. Bo Dickinson wasn't the girl parents around here wanted their kids hanging out with after school. Agnes * is legally blind; her parents allow her little of the freedom her older sister Gracie enjoyed. She tells Bo's cousin Cole "I want things. To which he replies "but you don't do nothing about it. You act like you've done give up. When Bo joins English class and surprises it with her interpretation of Robert Frost's *The Road Less Taken*, Agnes begins to change her opinion of Bo. Through circumstances that both girls encounter, the two become unlikely friends. When Bo faces the possibility of having to re-enter the foster care system, the two decide to escape Mursey by borrowing Gracie's car. Throughout *Run*, Bo provides the background of Agnes and her friendship. She never addresses the present moment or the future. She is both the most

sympathetic and the most off-putting of the main characters. Agnes narrates the portions of *Run* that focus on current scenarios and on the girls' flight from Mursey. Her growth as an independent individual is the most dramatic development of the novel. *Bo* had given me a taste of real freedom. Targeted at ages 14 and older, *Run* contains raw, rough language and several short passages relating to physical intimacy and sexuality. The *f-word* is used frequently as are various profane terms referencing females. While it probably would not shock or surprise most readers in the target group, parents may prefer less use of profanity in their child's reading material. I liked *Run* for the messages it conveyed and because of its personal meaning to me. As an *Agnes*, I made friends with a *Bo* fifty years ago "she" remains my truest friend today.

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