



Readers' Favorite[®]

Book Reviews and Award Contest

Book Review Mini-Critique



Below you will find ratings (scale of 1-5) with descriptions for the major parts of your book followed by your Readers' Favorite review. Although these are general ratings we hope they will give you an insight into how others may view the different components of your book.

These are the opinions of your reviewer, and although your reviewer is not an expert literary critic or professional editor, they are at the very least, an avid reader of books just like yours.

Title: Don't Let Me Go
Author: Jamila Mikhail
Genre: Young Adult - Social Issues



Appearance: The appearance of a book can make a significant impact on the experience of a reader, whose enjoyment is often enhanced by an enticing cover, an intriguing table of contents, interesting chapter headings, and when possible, eye-catching illustrations.

5

Plot: The characters of a book should be well defined with strengths and flaws, and while they do not have to be likable, the reader does have to be able to form a connection with them. The tone should be consistent, the theme should be clear, and the plot should be original or told from a unique perspective. For informative books -- those without plot and characters--this rating refers primarily to your concept and how well you presented it.

5

Development: Development refers to how effectively you told your story or discussed your topic. The dialogue should be realistic, the descriptions should be vivid, and the material should be concise and coherent. Organization is also a key factor, especially for informative books -- those without plot and characters. The order in which you tell your story or explain your topic and how smoothly it flows can have a huge impact on the reader's understanding and enjoyment of the material.

5

Formatting: Formatting is the single most overlooked area by authors. The way in which you describe scenes, display dialogue, and shift point of view can make or break your story. In addition, excessive grammatical errors and typos can give your book an amateurish feel and even put off readers completely.

5

Marketability: Marketability refers to how effectively you wrote your book for your target audience. Authors may include content that is above or below the understanding of their target reader, or include concepts, opinions or language that can accidentally confuse or alienate some readers. Although by its nature this rating is very subjective, a very low rating here and poor reviews may indicate an issue with your book in this area.

5

Overall Opinion: The overall starred rating takes into account all these elements and describes the overall reading experience of your reviewer. This is the official Readers' Favorite review rating for your book.

5

Review:

Reviewed by K.C. Finn for Readers' Favorite

Don't Let Me Go is a work of fiction in the social issues, interpersonal drama, and magical realism sub-genres, and was penned by author Jamila Mikhail. The work is intended for young adult and adult reading audiences and contains some references to violence and the Holocaust, but no graphic material. Our protagonist is Joanie, a contemporary teen who buries herself in her hobbies when the resultant trauma of her parents' ugly divorce gets her down. But when one of the models she loves to make comes to life, Joanie discovers a whole new bond with Adler, a soldier from the German Resistance in the Second World War. What results is a very engrossing coming of age tale that is sure to keep readers turning the pages from cover to cover.

Author Jamila Mikhail has crafted a touching and poignant work of fiction with plenty of dramatic highs and lows to offer its readers. One of the features which I found particularly impressive about this piece was its deep emotional resonance and commitment to realistic feelings, even in a supernatural and quirky plotline. Adler is a fascinating character who holds up a mirror to Joanie's own struggles and their bond is well penned to develop into something truly powerful by the novel's end. I feel that young adult readers will empathize closely with Joanie, whilst older readers will admire the parallelism in the historical references and the trials of modern life. Overall, I would highly recommend *Don't Let Me Go* to readers of historical and contemporary mash-ups, realistic supernatural elements, and for emotive drama fans everywhere.