

The hate you give

The novel "The hate you give" by Angie Thomas tells the story of a young girl who is constantly switching worlds, between her poor black neighborhood and her elite prep school. The struggles she faces come from having to act different in certain places, and feeling out of place in a world that she can't control. The struggle of not fitting in is something that every teenager deals with, but in Stars instance she is in the middle of a biased situation.

This story has challenged the status quo in society because people accept and think that racism and prejudice doesn't exist but it very much does. In the novel, Star's best friend Maya doesn't even realize that her words and actions are racist. The challenges that this book proposes confront how people perceive their words and their so called "jokes". In today status quo we have come to a form of reality/ agreement of the way we perceive others. The story brings up the conversation of how we treat other differently depending on skin color. The main point of the novel is when Stars friend is killed by a white police officer and Star is the only witness. This is a very controversial topic which brought attention to the community she lives in as well as the one she attends school in. With both of them being very different communities she is exposed to the views of people who aren't exposed to these situations. This becomes complex for her because she is the anonymous witness and she needs to decide whether to protect herself or to give justice to her friend Khalil.

The most important impact that this novel discussed about our society is racism. Every day, whether we choose to acknowledge it or not our world receives racism. The tricky part of the United States is that it is a melting pot, meaning people of many different ethnicities and races live here. This can be a wonderful thing but also a challenging thing, because then it is hard to find common ground and not feel out of place. I, like many others struggle with this because I

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am first generation Indian. It can be a challenge to adapt to new cultural ways here, but also trying to preserve some of my tradition. In addition, it is hard to keep up or feel the same way as my peers. While reading this book, I related to Star, for example when she expressed how she felt like two different people. Star explains in the book that while she is in school she acts like the "white" version of Star, but while she is in her neighborhood she acts like a completely different person. At a certain point it is hard for her to differentiate who she is most alike to, because she switches between these two personalities so easily.

In conclusion we must remember that times have changed, and we are always improving ourselves. It can be hard for people like me and Star to finally realize that we don't live to please others. Ultimately this book teaches us that society will also have what they think or believe to be true, so instead of working around their beliefs we should create our own.

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