

Parents' Guide to

The Haters

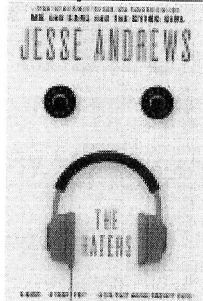
By Mary Cosola, Common Sense Media Reviewer

age 15+

Fun band road-trip story, but crass humor wears thin.

Book Jesse Andrews Coming of Age 2016

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A Lot or a Little?

What you will—and won't—find in this book.

Educational Value

Some information on musical genres and musicians.

Positive Messages

The book's positive messages are buried, but t

Positive Role Models

Most of the main characters are deeply flawed. Wes

Violence & Scariness

One of the characters gets a bad glass cut, and th

Sex, Romance & Nudity

Some kissing. Teen girl and boy sleep in the same

Language

Frequent swearing by most of the characters, inclu

Products & Purchases

Numerous music and pop culture references througho

Drinking, Drugs & Smoking

A few scenes of underage drinking, with teens gett

Parents Need to Know

Parents need to know that *The Haters* by Jesse Andrews (*Me and Earl and the Dying Girl*) is a raunchy, rock-'n'-roll-road-trip story. Wes, Corey, and Ash escape jazz camp and hit the road, hoping to land some great gigs and be "real" musicians. As they drive around the South, they...

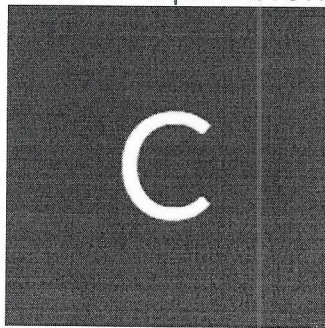
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age 15+

Based on 2 parent reviews



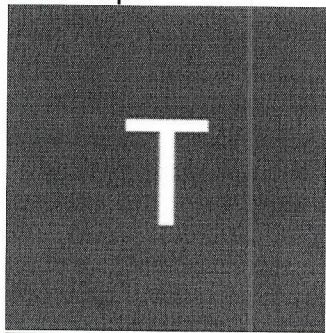
CoolDue69 Adult

4 years ago

age 16+

Good

Mad dope



tobier Adult

7 years ago

age 14+

The humor isn't for everyone

But if you like crass, crude, and uncomfortable humor, this is the book for you. Like *Me and Earl and the Dying Girl*, there's not one you'd label as a particularly good role model, but I was happy to see positive relationships between certain friends and family.

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What's the Story?

Wes and his friend Corey attend a highly respected jazz camp, only to realize immediately that they hate the camp and most of the other campers. But that's what they do best together: hate everything. They meet a girl named Ash who also feels she doesn't fit in at camp. After what they consider to be an epic, life-changing jam session, the trio decides to run away from camp and hit the road on a music tour. They have fun, fight, make some terrible decisions, face danger, and try to find a good gig that will show the world how great they are. In the process they grow up a little and learn a lot about themselves and each other.

Show less

Is It Any Good?

Our review:

Parents say (2):

Kids say (6):

The band bonding is realistic and heartfelt in this tale that traces the ups and downs of life on the road in a funny, raunchy fashion. The three bandmates' joy in playing music together and creating their own sound makes for exciting reading. We see the good and bad of trying to be creative partners while spending every minute together. The characters see each other at their best and worst and deal with their egos, creative differences, and gross smells. Some of the running dialogue among them is hilarious at first, but as the book progresses, the banter gets old.

Author Jesse Andrews accurately captures the arrogance of youth: The kids hate everything that isn't hip and cool. They do learn lessons about the dangers of such arrogance and that it's OK to admit some things are cool or worthwhile. Even though this is a road trip tale, the story lacks urgency. It meanders along as the kids do, with no real end game in sight. The ultimate messages about responsibility, compromise, and self-reliance are well delivered, but it takes the reader some work to get there.

The Haters

Jesse Andrews

3.41

5,935 ratings1,083 reviews

From Jesse Andrews, author of the *New York Times* bestselling *Me and Earl and the Dying Girl* and screenwriter of the Sundance award-winning motion picture of the same name, comes a groundbreaking young adult novel about music, love, friendship, and freedom as three young musicians follow a quest to escape the law long enough to play the amazing show they hope (but also doubt) they have in them.

Inspired by the years he spent playing bass in a band himself, *The Haters* is Jesse Andrews's road trip adventure about a trio of jazz-camp escapees who, against every realistic expectation, become a band.

For Wes and his best friend, Corey, jazz camp turns out to be lame. It's pretty much all dudes talking in Jazz Voice. But then they jam with Ash, a charismatic girl with an unusual sound, and the three just click. It's three and a half hours of pure musical magic, and Ash makes a decision: They need to hit the road. Because the road, not summer camp, is where bands get good. Before Wes and Corey know it, they're in Ash's SUV heading south, and The

Haters Summer of Hate Tour has begun.

In his second novel, Andrews again brings his brilliant and distinctive voice to YA, in the perfect book for music lovers, fans of *The Commitments* and *High Fidelity*, or anyone who has ever loved—and hated—a song or a band. This witty, funny coming-of-age novel is contemporary fiction at its best.

Genres **Young Adult Contemporary Music Fiction Realistic Fiction Humor Young Adult Contemporary**
...more

352 pages, Kindle Edition

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