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Blood, Ink & Fire



Synopsis

Imagine a world without books... In the future, books are a distant memory. The written word has been replaced by an ever-present stream of images known as Verity. In the controlling dominion of the United Vales of Fell, reading is obsolete and forbidden, and readers themselves do not exist. But where others see images in the stream, teenager Noelle Hartley sees words. She is obsessed with what they mean, where they came from, and why they found her. Noelle has been keeping her dangerous fixation with words a secret, but on the night before her seventeenth birthday, a rare interruption in the stream leads her to a mysterious volume linked to an underworld of rebel book lovers known as the Nine of the Rising. With the help of the Risers and the beguiling boy Ledger, Noelle discovers that the words within her are precious clues to the books of the earlier time and as a child of their bookless age, she might be the world's last hope of bringing them back. Blood, Ink & Fire is a gripping, evocative tale that asks, who would we be without books?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Take a minute and try to imagine who you would be if books "if reading" had never been a part of your life. Considering the fact that you're reading this review, I'm going to make the (somewhat broad) assumption that you consider yourself a reader, no matter how minuscule that consideration may be. A world without books and reading is what author Ashley Mansour has created in her novel Blood, Ink & Fire. It's a world that is harrowing and exciting, dangerous and secretive. It's everything you could imagine a world without books to be and summed up in one word, it can only be described as this: intense. Living within the United Vales of Fell, teen Noelle

Hartley has grown knowing only Verity, the unending stream of imagery that has rendered books and the written word obsolete. For years, Fell has ensured that books have remained out of the hands of the public, and that reading is a skill that nobody can utilize. And yet, after something goes terribly wrong within Verity, Noelle finds herself committing a forbidden act: she reads. Suddenly, Noelle is swept up into a perilous world in pursuit of a series of volumes alongside a mysterious boy named Ledger. Noelle's epic journey just might bring books back from the brink and prove that nothing is ever what it seems. There was something incredibly thought-provoking about Blood, Ink & Fire. A world without books and reading sounds like a scary place "and certainly unlike any place I would want to be in. One of the things I loved most about Blood, Ink & Fire in hindsight was just how the novel stays with you long after you've finished reading. Constantly after having finished Blood, Ink & fire, I couldn't stop myself from constantly thinking of "what if" scenarios. What if I was trapped under Fell's thumb?

To answer my question above: lose my mind. I would literally lose my mind. No, you're thinking I'm Erica, c'mon, you won't literally lose your mind. • But, yes I will. It's not figurative it will be gone and I won't know what to do. I wouldn't think, I wouldn't be creative, I wouldn't be able to simply do. But, enough about my inability to do let's talk about this freakin' awesome book! Blood, Ink & Fire is a book about a girl named Noelle who can see words. Cool, we all can see words, but in this world it's forbidden. All memory of how to read or even be capable of seeing words has been stripped from these people, but somehow, Noelle holds this power. Once she starts seeing the worth of power this book just evolves into something 10000x better. Noelle is helped by the Risers and is trying to take over Fell and what they made the world become. Throughout this story I just keep connecting with Noelle. Sometimes I get annoyed with how she goes back and forth between pitying herself and finding herself to be pretty damn awesome. I get that she has gone through hell, but she is here to kick ass. I mean getting upset is one thing, but she just took pity and fell into a hole where you just wanted to shake her. But, for the most part I loved her. She was bad-ass and totally wanted to do whatever it took to get more readers out in the world. Ledger is someone I adored. I don't want to get into him much because I want you to feel the whole story of him on your own. I enjoyed him thoroughly. Like I said above, I was a beta reader and I have re-read the final version. The main difference was the pace of the romance and boy I loved the changes Ashley made. It is at the perfect pace and I wanted more and more.

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