



***The Getaway* by Lamar Giles**

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ISBN: 9781338752014 (Hardcover)

*Age Range: 12 and Up (Suggested by Publisher)

Grade Range: 9 and Up (Recommended by *School Library Journal*)

BOOK SYNOPSIS

Jay is living his best life at Karloff Country, one of the world's most famous resorts. He's got his family, his crew, and an incredible after-school job at the property's main theme park. Life isn't so great for the rest of the world, but when people come here to vacation, it's to get away from all that.

As things outside get worse, trouble starts seeping into Karloff. First, Jay's friend Connie and her family disappear in the middle of the night and no one will talk about it. Then the richest and most powerful families start arriving, only... they aren't leaving. Unknown to the employees, the resort has been selling shares in an end-of-the-world oasis. The best of the best at the end of days. And in order to deliver the top-notch customer service the wealthy clientele paid for, the employees will be at their total beck and call.

Whether they like it or not.

Yet Karloff Country didn't count on Jay and his crew--and just how far they'll go to find out the truth and save themselves. But what's more dangerous: the monster you know in your home or the unknown nightmare outside the walls?

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

★ "With hints of Cory Doctorow, Jordan Peele, and Richard Matheson, this book stands on its own as a dystopian adventure, but the deeper metaphors around servitude, privilege, class, and solidarity mean that there's a lot to think about as the characters reckon with their proximity to and complicity in violence both local and far-flung. Hold tight: You'll want to stay on this nightmarish roller coaster till the end." —*Kirkus Reviews*, **starred review**

★ "This arresting and engaging dystopian thriller interrogates the horrors of racism, classism, unregulated capitalism and eco-fascism." —*Shelf Awareness*, **starred review**

"You can't go wrong with [this] scarily good book." —*The New York Times*

"Giles's harrowing dystopian novel combines an exploration of capitalistic greed and systemic racism and oppression with gripping psychological horror, resulting in a read that is guaranteed to terrify." —*Publishers Weekly*

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"With elements of adventure, science fiction, horror, and even a bit of romance in a broken world, Giles keeps readers wondering who can and cannot be trusted throughout this page-turning novel." —*The Horn Book*

"Class, elitism, racism are all at *The Getaway's* center, and Lamar Giles combines them for one of the best YA horror books of the year." —NPR, Best Book of 2022

"Timely, thrilling, and gripping from start to finish. An absolute page-turner." —Karen M. McManus, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *One of Us Is Lying*

"*The Getaway* grabbed me from page one and didn't let go. I was immediately fascinated *and* disturbed by the fictional Karloff Country. You too will be lured in and then horrified by the truth behind those perfect customer service smiles..." —Malinda Lo, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Last Night at the Telegraph Club*

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- CBC Librarian Favorites Award – Book List: Grades 9-12
- CBC Teacher Favorites Award – Book List: Grades 9-12
- CBC Young Adult Favorites Award List: Grades 9-12
- CCBC Choices List: Fiction for Young Adults
- Florida Teens Read! Award – Reading List
- YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults Book List *Top Ten Title
- YALSA Quick Picks Book List
- YALSA Amazing Audiobooks List
- NPR Best Book of 2022
- New York Public Library "2022 Best Book for Teens"
- *Kirkus* Reviews "Best Teen & YA Book of 2022"

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Author Letter](#)
- [Library of Congress National Book Festival Highlight](#)
- [We Need Diverse Books](#), cover reveal & letter from the author
- [Shelf-Awareness](#), YA horror panel recap
- [Kirkus Reviews](#), "12 YA Books that are Must-Reads this Fall"
- [The Root](#), "Books by Black Authors We Can't Wait to Read this Fall"
- [The New York Times](#): "7 Terrifying Horror Novels Perfect for Teens"

RESPONSE TO CHALLENGES

[PEN America Statement of Support](#): We Need Diverse Books (WNDB), PEN America, and Florida Freedom to Read Project (FFTRP) are writing to you on behalf of the undersigned authors and illustrators affected by the Pinellas County school district's decision to hold 87 titles for further review ... [W]e find it troubling that several titles written by WNDB current and past Board members are included on this list, including *The Getaway* by Lamar Giles, *Blackout* co-authored by Dhonielle Clayton, and *Valentina Salazar is NOT a Monster Hunter* by Zoraida Córdova, along with many books by creators affiliated with WNDB's programs. Several of PEN America's author

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members are also named on this list of books. Given WNDB's mission to produce and promote diverse literature that reflects and honors the lives of all young people as well as PEN America's mission to defend free expression and celebrate literary excellence, this list of books targeted for review is particularly jarring.

As stated in Dr. Rudine Sims Bishop's seminal essay, "Mirrors Windows, and Sliding Glass Doors," published in 1990: "When children cannot find themselves reflected in the books they read, or when the images they see are distorted, negative, or laughable, they learn a powerful lesson about how they are devalued in the society of which they are a part." Targeting these titles sets a terrible precedent and message that diverse books need to be further scrutinized and censored, just because they are by and about marginalized creators.

***A NOTE ON AGE RANGES**

A publisher-suggested age range covers the gamut of readers that publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate age range for the diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.

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