



[Dancing Naked](#) by Shelley Hrdlitschka

Orca Book Publishers, 2002

9781551432106 (paperback)

*Age Range: 12+ (Suggested by Publisher)

Grade Range: Gr. 8+

BOOK SYNOPSIS

Kia is sixteen and pregnant. Her world crumbles as she attempts to come to terms with the life growing inside her and what she must do. Initially convinced that abortion is her only option, Kia comes to understand that for her, the answers are not always black and white. As the pregnancy progresses, Kia discovers who her real friends are and where their loyalties lie. It is through her relationship with the elderly Grace that she learns what it means to take responsibility for one's life and the joy that can come from trusting oneself. Faced with the most difficult decision of her life, Kia learns that the path to adulthood is not the easily navigable trail she once thought, but a twisting labyrinth where every turn produces a new array of choices, and where the journey is often undertaken alone.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

"The subject matter, plus strong writing and plotting, invites recreational reading; also consider this for curriculum support."—*Booklist*

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- Forest of Reading White Pine Award, **Winner, 2002**
- Canadian Library Association (CLA) Young Adult Book Award, **Short-listed, 2002**
- American Library Association (ALA) Best Books for Young Adults, **Commended, 2003**
- American Library Association (ALA) Popular Paperback for Young Adults, **Commended, 2003**
- Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) Quick Picks, **Commended, 2003**
- Canadian Children's Book Centre (CCBC) Our Choice, **Commended, 2002**

Updated 8/15/2024

Orca Book Publishers

orca@orcabook.com

RESPONSE TO CHALLENGES

ACLU of Texas [Response to North East Independent School District Book Removals](#)

*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.