

Monday's Not Coming by Tiffany D. Jackson

Katherine Tegen Books, HarperCollins, 2018

ISBN: 9780062422682 (Paperback)

*Age Range: 13 up (Suggested by Publisher)

Grade Range: 9 up (Recommended by School Library Journal)

BOOK SYNOPSIS

From the critically acclaimed author of *Allegedly*, Tiffany D. Jackson, comes a gripping novel about the mystery of one teenage girl's disappearance and the traumatic effects of the truth.

Monday Charles is missing, and only Claudia seems to notice. Claudia and Monday have always been inseparable—more sisters than friends. So when Monday doesn't turn up for the first day of school, Claudia's worried.

When she doesn't show for the second day, or second week, Claudia knows that something is wrong. Monday wouldn't just leave her to endure tests and bullies alone. Not after last year's rumors and not with her grades on the line. Now Claudia needs her best—and only—friend more than ever. But Monday's mother refuses to give Claudia a straight answer, and Monday's sister April is even less help.

As Claudia digs deeper into her friend's disappearance, she discovers that no one seems to remember the last time they saw Monday. How can a teenage girl just vanish without anyone noticing that she's gone?

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

"A mesmerizing, punch-in-the-gut story about the power of friendship and the horrors hiding right in front of us."

— Laurie Halse Anderson, author of *Speak* and *Chains*

"This thought-provoking thriller examines issues such as abuse, gentrification, and the marginalization of people of color with nuance and sensitivity. The narrative deftly moves back and forth between past and present, building to a devastating conclusion. A spellbinding, profoundly moving choice for YA collections."

— <u>School Library Journal</u> (starred review)

"Jackson's sophomore novel features another ripped-from-the-headlines premise that will keep readers guessing through the final pages. Jackson's characters and their heart-wrenching story linger long after the final page, urging readers to advocate for those who are disenfranchised and forgotten by society and the system."

— <u>Publishers Weekly</u> (starred review)

"Jackson effortlessly weaves elements of suspense with issues of race, class, and gender, casting a harsh light on a world that often refuses to notice the disappearances of black and brown girls. The twist at the end is both gaspworthy and heartbreaking."

Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books (starred review)

"Jackson doesn't hold anything back when it comes to the pain of abuse and the ramifications of turning a blind eye. It's a frank, devastating read filled with real and flawed characters, and it's a story that needs to be read."

- Booklist

"In addition to a gripping plot line, underlying social issues bubble beneath the surface, such as neighborhood gentrification, race, poverty, community, the healing of connection, and the destruction in disconnection."

— The Horn Book

"The gravest, most fundamental challenge in Tiffany D. Jackson's devastating novel is leveled at a society that purports to value children while allowing untold numbers of them, particularly poor children and children of color, to fall through the cracks."

— <u>Chicago Tribune</u>

"The draw of this novel, which was inspired by actual events, lies in its interwoven themes of the effects of gentrification, especially on black residents whose connections, culture, and community become afterthoughts in the face of capitalism. A tragic and heartbreaking tale of love, loss, grief, growth, and perseverance."

Kirkus Reviews

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- Coretta Scott King John Steptoe New Talent Author Award
- We Need Diverse Books Walter Dean Myers Award for Outstanding Children's Literature
- YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults
- YALSA Quick Picks
- YALSA Outstanding Books for the College Bound
 - Arts and Literature
 - History and Cultures
- Bulletin for the Center of Children's Books Blue Ribbon
- School Library Journal Best Books
- Booklist Top 10 Crime Fiction for Youth
- University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education Best Books of 2018 for Young Readers
- Texas Library Association TAYSHAS List
- Eliot Rosewater Indiana High School Book Award
- One Maryland One Book Program
- Missouri Association School Libraries Readers Award
- Tennessee Volunteer State Book Awards
- D. C. Capitol Choices
- Heartland Books Recommendation for Life-Long Readers
- Abraham Lincoln Illinois High School Book Award
- New Jersey Garden State Teen Book Award
- Michigan Thumbs Up! Award
- Surrey Teen Reads

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- Discussion Guide
- Author Interview on Epic Reads
- Bustle Article

RESPONSE TO CHALLENGES

Add responses to challenges whenever possible, including links if available. Relevant information includes official responses from a board of education, library statements of support, or other statements of support from relevant organizations like PEN America or the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund.

AUTHOR STATEMENT (OPTIONAL)

Offer the author an opportunity to provide a statement about the potential impact of banning their book or a link to an existing author statement.

*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.