



***Riley Park* by Diane Tullson**

Orca Book Publishers, 2009

9781554691234, Paperback

\*Age Range: 12+ (Suggested by Publisher)

Grade Range: 12+ (Recommended by *School Library Journal*)

## BOOK SYNOPSIS

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**Seventeen-year-old Corbin plays hockey and is known as a scrapper on and off the ice.**

Fighting makes him feel strong. Corbin's friend, Darius, is socially adept and popular, and Darius's reckless risk-taking makes Corbin feel alive. With Rubee, a girl both boys like, Darius crosses a line, and after a party at Riley Park, Darius and Corbin are attacked. Darius is killed; Corbin is seriously injured. Corbin fights his clouded memory—he can't identify the assailants. He fights his weakened body—he can no longer play hockey. He fights the loss of his friend. But when he gives up the fight, he finds strength in acceptance.

## REVIEWS AND PRAISE

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"A suspenseful, tightly plotted story that manages, in only 102 pages, to create both a memorable protagonist and a thought-provoking, emotionally involving story."—*Booklist*

"Likable flawed characters drive the plot in this gritty contemporary drama. The fast-paced read feels current and edgy without succumbing to inner-city staging. *Riley Park* will have both reluctant and struggling readers flipping the pages."—*School Library Journal*

## AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

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- TriState Young Adult Book Review Committee Book of Note | 2010 | Commended
- CCBC Best Books for Kids & Teens | 2010 | Commended
- Junior Library Guild (JLG) Gold Standard Selection | 2009 | Commended

## MEDIA AND RESOURCES

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[\*Riley Park\* Teacher Guide](#)

**Updated 08/21/2024**

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## **AUTHOR STATEMENT (OPTIONAL)**

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*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**

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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.