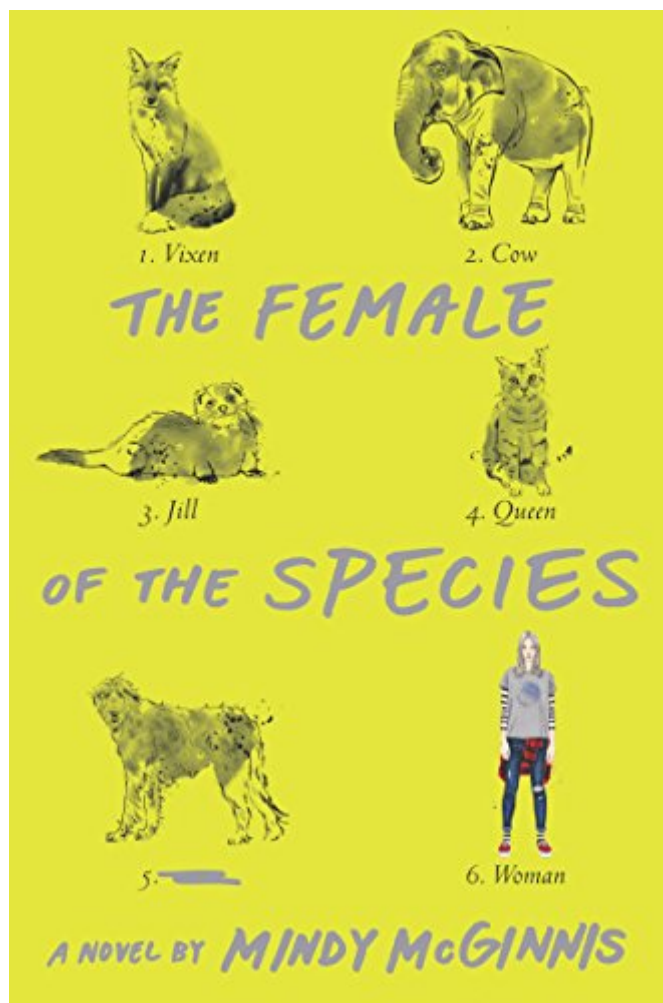


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The Female Of The Species



Synopsis

2017 Tayshas List Selection * YALSA Top 10 Best YA Fiction of 2017 * School Library Journal Best of 2016 * Junior Library Guild Selection * The Globe and Mail's Best Books of 2016 * Bustle's Best Young Adult Books of 2016 * Mashable's 8 Best YA Books of 2016 * Seventeen's 10 Best YA Books of 2016 * CCBC Choices 2017 Edgar Award-winning author Mindy McGinnis delivers a relentless and riveting contemporary YA novel that examines rape culture through alternating perspectives. A stunning, unforgettable page-turner. Alex Craft knows how to kill someone. And she doesn't feel bad about it. Three years ago, when her older sister, Anna, was murdered and the killer walked free, Alex uncaged the language she knows best—the language of violence. While her own crime goes unpunished, Alex knows she can't be trusted among other people. Not with Jack, the star athlete who wants to really know her but still feels guilty over the role he played the night Anna's body was discovered. And not with Peekay, the preacher's kid with a defiant streak who befriends Alex while they volunteer at an animal shelter. Not anyone. As their senior year unfolds, Alex's darker nature breaks out, setting these three teens on a collision course that will change their lives forever.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Sneak Peeks at Female Of The Species!

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This was amazing! The audible narration was done extremely well, with the three POV done by three different actors, if that is the right word. This book, like *Reconstructing Amelia*, give you insight into the world of teens and the adult situations they face. It made me laugh on a few occasions, because the situation was real; and horrified me on other occasions with the situations they faced. Now I will go and mourn these characters and this book, as I can't move on just yet. I know most people would say that Alex is a sociopath, and I'm inclined to agree, but you see her change and develop throughout the book into something more complex once she interacts with PeeKay, Jack, Sarah, Branley, and Park. Jack could be described as a typical teenage jock, but he's not, as second in his class academically...he's not typical. And, finally, PeeKay as the what could have been the meek preachers kid, you see her grow and become fierce in her own right. The additional cast of characters, Sarah, the lesbian basketball player; Park, the other dumb jock, that turns out to be a pretty good guy; and Branley, the it girl, popular, perfect, cheerleader, mean girl, but also is more than that. The author did an amazing job of giving all these kids depth and complex personalities.

This is a beautifully written, incredibly powerful novel. McGinnis uses three different perspectives, all of which examine rape culture through a different lens. Often, I've found that authors (particularly YA authors), use multiple perspectives as a bit of a crutch, but that is not the case with McGinnis. The various perspectives feel necessary, and McGinnis never loses control of her characters or the narrative despite the multiple POVs. This is not an ~easy~ book to read--though I did speed through it because the writing is so gripping--but I'm so glad I picked this up.

I bought this book on a whim, it was on sale and looked interesting. I didn't know much about it but now that I've finished it I'm in awe of it. Alex is an outsider, the girl with the dead sister. She doesn't behave like the rest of the kids in her small town. She's very relatable if you weren't part of the in crowd in high school. This was a quick and easy to read book. I fell in love with the characters

immediately and just fell into their world. The story flows seamlessly and without all of the whiny high school drama some YA books inflict on the reader. I will say the ending wasn't my cup of tea but I'll leave it at that so I don't spoil anything.

I will be the first to admit, it took me a while to read this book. It deals with some heavy topics and there were a few times I just needed to stop and let it sit before getting back to it. That being said, once I finished I just wanted to start back at the beginning and reread it. I'm usually not that big on alternating POV books but it was so effective for this story. I think rape culture is prevalent and this book talks about it in a real way. I have recommended it to several people already and will continue to do so.

There are books that leave the reader angry. Ravenous angry. Fingers balled into a fist kind of angry. And yet the reader thanks the author from heart because she made him/her feel. Anger is one of those highly misunderstood emotions that society doesn't even pretend to comprehend. Anger= bad. Anger= out of control. Anger= avoid. Says who? And why? Anger is NOT bad.

It's human to feel angry. We are nothing but evolved apes. What makes us inhumane is to lose touch with our innate emotions. That makes us weak. ALEX CRAFT is a hero who feels too much. She feels full range of emotions. She acts upon her emotions. Yes, her methods are questionable. And she is aware of that. I think she deserves understanding. Not sympathy (she would hardly care for it), but understanding. Mindy McGinnis is an author that stuns the readers with her objectivity. She is a God-like figure, always present, always observing, penning down what she sees, but never intrusive. She doesn't force a story on her characters. She builds strong, relatable characters and then let them be their own persons in the world she creates. Her command over the craft is commendable. The novel is written from 3 points of view. Alex, Jack, and Peekay. Multiple points of view novels are always a test of an author's craft. Are the voices distinct? Does the author understand each of her character, in and out? Does her characters contribute the same element to the story without bringing novelty? Yes, yes, and no. Mindy is skilled to handle multiple points of view. Even though some of the characters do repeat some part of the story in successive chapters, she uses multiple points of view as a TOOL, so we read a different story. The Female of the Species is one of those rare fictions that the world NEEDS. It's an urgent and pressing need. It is a high time that the elephant in the room needs to be addressed. Ducking the head in the sand won't make the storm pass away. An incredibly brilliant novel that must become a part of every teenager girl (and

boy)ÃfÂçÃ â ¬Ã â,,çs reading list. Every parent (and teacher, and counselor, and psychologist) must read this before they talk about the growing rape culture.

Loved this book and read it in a day. Great story the puts an end to the debate of whether or not women are the weaker gender. The female of the species is a coming of age story of a girl with most likely genetic psychosis who goes through a horrible tragedy as a young teen. The way she reacts to and the way that she eventually learns to grow and change thanks to her own brand of therapy given to her by developing a friendship, an attachment that she shouldn't have been able to form, but she does. Deeply troubling and beautiful at the same time.

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