



Dusk

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In vivid prose, Gates conjures a tale of science gone wrong that seems eerily realistic. A girl whose DNA was fused with hawk genes in a military experiment to make the best warriors escapes her captivity and hides in an abandoned town with other subjects who fled the lab.

Dusk Details

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Author : Susan Gates

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From Reader Review Dusk for online ebook

Karissa says

I'm still wondering what on earth it is I read with this book. I seriously thought I was going to have nightmares soon after I started reading it what with the General Rat and his rat army. Gross.

Dusk is a science experiment gone wrong. Scientists wanted to see if they could create a person with the eyes of a hawk – someone who would see in the night or soldiers. They inserted hawk genes into an embryo and thus Dusk was born. But Dusk had more attributes from a hawk than they planned, so instead of letting her live the life of a human, they keep her caged up like an animal. This makes her believe even more that she's a hawk rather than human. She has three eyelids, loves hunting mice (when she gets out of the lab anyways. In the lab they just defrost frozen mice for her) and thinks that she can fly despite not having wings.

Thanks to a fire at the laboratory, Dusk is able to escape, along with General Rat, a rat who has been given more room in his head for a brain, aggressively pumped rats for his army, and a wolf-dog. They all live in the ruins of the laboratory years after the fire on their own schedules.

I cannot think of anything else to say for this book other than thank goodness I'm done reading it!

Ciera says

I read to about page 80 before I started skimming each chapter because it was so boring. The writing isn't that great, and I hated all the characters. This book wasn't what I expected at all. I'd give it zero stars if it were possible.

Willow Staley says

2.75 STARS. This book's synopsis reminded me a lot of the Animorph's book series. But as I read this story I began to become disappointed that the main characters back story wasn't the main focus of the story. This story follows Dusk a girl whose DNA was fused with hawk genes. The military believes that the combination of hawk genetics might be able to give their soldiers night vision. But things didn't go as planned, and Dusk spends her life trapped in a government laboratory. It seems as if all hope is lose for Dusk being able to escape, but then she meets the one person who can help her escape. Will Dusk be able to escape the cruelty of the scientists, or will she be caught before she is given the chance of reaching freedom? Read the book Dusk By: Susan Gates to find out. (or don't the choice is yours)

Michelle Toolson says

Finally, a book that was written really well and wasn't just chock full of adverbs and dumb metaphors. The voices were really strong. The characterizations were wonderful. No one in this book was perfect. They had many problems. But I didn't like the point of view changes. It was unique, I guess. I just didn't like being in

Curtis's head and then having at least two paragraphs talking about what the General Mouse and Dusk were thinking. Not to mention it was eerie that the voice was so adult and so well written, but the child, Dusk, was only 11 years old. Then flash forward just two years and Curtis's son Jay is doing drugs, beating up kids and taunting about sex. And driving. At thirteen years old! I was like....man this is an adult voice for a thirteen year old. The book was great in that it really unnerved you-the symbolism of the woman who smiled but killed hawks and poisoned doves. The son, Jay, taunts a kid and gets beat up. Instead of feeling sorry for the kid, he is worried about his reputation. Enough that he beats himself up to make it look like an even fight. I've never read a book from that hard of an angle before (in terms of bullying). I also didn't like one part about Jay-he's such a tough kid and she does a good job explaining why he hates his moms "Jesus" and doesn't trust his father, but treats him like a baby to deal with him. But then he meets a dog one morning and suddenly feels like it's his dog. That seemed weird and out of character for me, even though it started the main plot sequence.

Christine says

Okay, so I picked this up, and it had the coolest summary. Check it. This half-breed of human and hawk (awesome) livin' in the wild (awesome) meets boy (yay!). What I didn't want...they were 13. What the mess? I don't enjoy reading 13 year old semi-love stories. Swearing...yuck. And Jay? The dude? He's a loser. Until like the very last page. Or whatever. Oh, and the rat is super creepy. That's all I'll say, to avoid spoilers...but man...

Ary Nilandari says

Good premises, but fell short because of POV choice, I think. It would be better if only Jay and Dusk telling the story, not jumping from head to head randomly that keeping the reader apart from the main characters. And the ending... it's not conclusive.

What I like though is Jay's internal conflict. I can relate to him, but suffer with him from the abrupt ending.

From others' reviews I learnt that there isn't any sequel. That's too bad.

Maybe the author intended this as a first book but then being cancelled.

Fanny says

Dusk's DNA was infused with hawk genes by the military to get good night vision, but instead of just the eye genes she has absorbed the hawk's behaviors: Solitary, predator, but still human in a way. She feels, can learn, can talk, can make tools, hunts in both a human and animal way, and is anti-social due to cruel treatment by humans and long periods of isolation and drugs. She meets the son of a person who was kind to her in the government facility, Curtis's son Jay. Together they try to escape the town of Prospect.

Melissa Dwyer says

Originally rated A- by Dominic Matthews

This book is okay. It's pretty predictable. It's definitely geared toward older readers (it has approximately four swear words in it and some gruesome descriptions). I probably would have enjoyed it a lot more if I hadn't read *Maximum Ride*, by James Patterson, first. *Dusk* is a watered down version of *Maximum Ride*. *Dusk* starts slow but picks up toward the end. Students that are into sci-fi might enjoy it. Buy it if there are few other choices. Book summary from SLJ is also posted.

Kristen says

I do really like this book, but in my opinion it ended a little too early and was too cliff-hangy. I'm guessing there is going to be another book... but *Dusk* didn't mention any other books.

Dannette says

On a positive note, the book was only 170 pages long, so only took a couple of sittings to get through.

On the other hand, this only felt like part of a story. There was no real conclusion, which made it feel like it might be the first in a series. After some digging, I don't think that it is, which makes it that much more disappointing.

There was far too much time given to the back story of one of the main characters for such a short book, not to mention that it was not very interesting and had no bearing on the main story itself.

I will not be recommending this book.

Marc says

This story is about a genetically modified girl whose genes were infused with a hawk's. She was genetically modified with a hawk's genes for a government experiment to create supersoldiers or superwarriors, some favorable traits she attained was night vision. After being held in a lab for many years, she escapes and takes refuge in an abandoned town. In that town, she meets other escaped experiments, such as mutant rats and vicious guard dogs. Then on one occasion, a boy named Jay enters the abandoned town. It is then a battle between *Dusk*'s human behavior or her hawk instincts to either save the boy or kill him.

This book sounds very much like a science fiction film and I do enjoy the plot. It would be common to have a story like this in a science fiction novel. However, the concept of a human/hawk is ridiculous to me, on the other hand, I've seen Spiderman and I've enjoyed him, so who am I to judge that a hawk and a human cannot combine to create an acceptable fictional creature?

Ark of Books says

It's falling more on a 2.5, but it doesn't deserve just 2.

I wanna to start by saying that this book has an awesome story that had a lot of potential. The story could have a great success, because it's a genre that a lot of people love, but it didn't work for me. I was really drawn by the fact that the book was about a girl whose genes are mutated with Hawk's. It didn't really say much else, but I was already hooked.

When I started reading the book, I realized that it was in third person, which I'm not really a big fan of. You don't get to connect with the main character and in the book's case, there were not any main characters. There was Dusk, Jay and his father. The plot kept going from Dusk to Jay, really giving any reason why one is more important than the other at that point in the story.

I totally understand why it's not in first person, because we wouldn't be able to know all these things about the way Dusk lives among rats and wolves. However, I couldn't connect with Dusk because of the way she was written and described. To me, she seemed more like a robot than anything. Sure, she wasn't a full human with emotions and all, but it was hard to understand what she was going through because we weren't in her mind.

Jay's character didn't interest me at all. He was a kind of a bully and he didn't really care about anything but himself and his reputation. He does grow throughout the book and I'll admit that he's the character that seemed the most tridimensional.

More in a video.

Slizzards says

This book is about a genetically modified girl whose genes were blended with a hawk's to create super soldiers. After being held in a lab for many years, she escapes after a fire and takes cover in an abandoned town where she lives with other escaped experiments, such as mutant rats and vicious guard dogs. Soon, a boy named Jay enters the abandoned town and it soon becomes a battle between Dusk's human behavior or her hawk instincts to either save the boy or kill him.

I picked this book up because I loved the plot and the captivating mysterious cover. I had finished it only because I enjoyed the way the author put it (cliffhanging and fascinating). Although the plot line didn't have that much going on and so it felt too short, I would recommend this book to those who adore Science Fiction books because of the way the book is written.

Jacq Daisy says

I forgot the name of the book and the author. Was searching high and low via Internet for the title. Finally found it here. Yes, the book was so well-written that the young me find it hard to put down.

****SPOILERS***

The author took the time to describe vividly how the character hunts and very details of how dirty the environment is, etc. It gave me a deep impression. When the young me was reading it, i felt as if I was experiencing it with my own eyes, no details were spared. Thumbs up!

Janee Nottelling says

Read this years ago, can't remember when, but I remember how silly and inconsistent the writing style was. That was the most bothersome. The story itself had a nice basic premise but the male character was really flat. I bought the book a few months ago for nostalgic reasons and begin to re-read it. It was just as bad as I slightly remembered. For that, three stars.
