



Jumped

Rita Williams-Garcia

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The wrong angle

Trina: "Hey," I say, though I don't really know them. The boyed-up basketball girl barely moves. The others, her girls, step aside. It's okay if they don't speak. I know how it is. They can't all be Trina.

Dominique: Some stupid little flit cuts right in between us and is like, "Hey." Like she don't see I'm here and all the space around me is mines. I slam my fist into my other hand because she's good as jumped.

Leticia: Why would I get involved in Trina's life when I don't know for sure if I saw what I thought I saw? Who is to say I wasn't seeing it from the wrong angle?

Acclaimed author Rita Williams-Garcia intertwines the lives of three very different teens in this fast-paced, gritty narrative about choices and the impact that even the most seemingly insignificant ones can have. Weaving in and out of the girls' perspectives, readers will find themselves not with one intimate portrayal but three.

Jumped Details

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From Reader Review Jumped for online ebook

Gray Cox says

This plot is so juvenile, except it couldn't be for middle grade because it's a bit suggestive in places, and also word usage.

But the plot really annoyed me, what are we in third grade? Also, I'm 9.99% sure these girls were third graders, because the pettiness! GOSH, THE PETTINESS. I know petty girls, and high school girls who openly call themselves the queens of petty, but sheesh! These girls *freakin'* stole their crowns off of their greasy hair, lol.

Here's the plot of this book:

Airhead: EVERYONE WORSHIPS ME, I MAKE THEIR DAYS BETTER.

Whole school:.... no one likes you....

Airhead: *is oblivious* *walks past mean girl*

Mean girl: I'MMA BEAT THAT GIRL'S BUTT, HOW DARE SHE??

Loner girl: *overhears* Should I warn Airhead???

AND THAT'S THE WHOLE PLOT, EXCEPT, (view spoiler)

YO, I JUST SAVED YOU AN HOUR OF WASTED TIME!

You're welcome.

Also, I'm not even going to get into the borderline racist stereotypes, because then we'll be here all day.... -_-

Kirsten Young says

I don't like reading at all but, for the first time I actually liked this book. Jumped is one of the few books that I've read throughout the years. I can actually say that I was comfortable with reading it. If you like stories that can relate to your life or what your surrounded by then Jumped is the book for you. I recommend teenagers between the ages of 14-18 to read this. There are some curse words in here but, if your mature enough then it shouldn't bother you. Jumped relates to a lot of kids lives these days. People just don't understand what high school life is like this day in age.

Jumped is about three teenage girls named Leticia, Dominique, and Trina and how different there lives are. They don't really connect with eachother until one misunderstanding comes up. You have to really pay attention in the beginning because, I didn' know that they were talking about three different girls until towards the middle of the book. They all have there different lives and there different personalities until one day they all collide. You never know what could happen one day. One day you could be perfectly fine, and the next you could be in the hospital because you got jumped by three different people. People can interperate things wrong and twist your words around. You have to be careful because your life can change in an instant.

If your someone who thinks that there interested in this book then go get it definalty! I don't wanna give away too much of it because I want you guys to read it for yourself. The name of the book really got me because I'm really interested in these kind of books. If you don't like reading no matter what you should read this book. I didn't expect it too be this good.

Tenecia Abbott says

Interesting read!, this book really expresses the overall meaning of high school drama. Good story line .

Cory Dorn says

I Say this book is for older adults to Young Adults of Both genders would be able to read this book. Why, because this book changes characters each Chapter. It would be harder for younger people to pay attention on what is going on. Because kids have a short attentions spend. To be honest I barley know what was going on myself. Other than that it is a easy book to read there is not that much hard of words.

There are three characters that change in each chapter. So you have to pay a lot of attention to each chapter. Other than that is a good book to read. The three main characters names are Leticia, Monique, and Trina.

Dominique is a really the angered one of the main Characters. For example the begging of her first chapter she was waiting for her science teacher in the parking lot. To make her grades better. He doesn't she gets mad and threatens his life. Dominique is also really good at basket ball but she can't play because of how bad her grades are. That's why she threatens the math teacher to change her grades. Near the end of this book she gets mad because her coach wouldn't put her in the game. The coach says her grades are too poorly to put Dominique in the game. I really do not like this character to she is to mean.

Leticia is the preppy girl. Why I say this is because she has to look pretty 24/7. Another reason why is because she gets mad at her gym teacher for getting her fake nail broken off. Leticia also said to that gym teacher if she no one pays for what happened to her nail she would sue them. After that class she goes straight for a phone and calls her mother to tell her mother that her nail broken and that the school needs to pay. And when Leticia calls her mother she knows she was in a important meeting and doesn't care if she gets fired. Leticia keeps bugging her mother about her broken fake nail. Leticia mother ignores her and tells her that they would fix it this weekend. That's why I do not like this character she always has to have her way.

Finally my favorite character in this book that brings the color to everything she does. Trina. The reason why I said this is because she is a great artist. And she does not like to draw without colors. I really feel bad for this girl. Because no really listened to hear. Like when her appendix burst and before that happen, she keep telling her gym teacher that she didn't feel right. At the end of this book she goes to the hospital. I can't remember why but I do remember that her Art teacher was talking to her when she was out cold. Trina Art teacher told her about her flaws of her art and the great of her art. I really think that it was nice for Trina art teacher to meet her in the hospital. I hope that the made a sequel so I can see if Trina is fine. Because Trina is

my favorite out of the three main characters.

Cherylann says

This is a 3.5 star book, which could go up or down depending on how the book sits with me over the next few days.

Jumped takes place during the course of one day. Williams-Garcia weaves her story through the perspectives of Dominique, Trina, and Leticia. At first, I thought Dominique was the only one with a "problem". She is an angry, angry young woman. Her anger is clearly illustrated in her first chapter. She's waiting in the faculty parking lot for her science teacher. She needs to "talk" to him about changing her grade. Talking sounds a lot like threatening to me. Ironically if her teacher had reported the incident or (since the reader doesn't know if he did or not) had administration done something about Dominique there would have been no story. Of course there are a number of places that adults could have intervened and changed the outcome of the story.

As I read, I realized that Leticia and Trina are just as flawed as Dominique. In fact, I was more disturbed by Leticia at the end of the novel than I was Dominique. Leticia is a classic bystander. She was the one character the reader knows for sure had the power to change the events and outcome of the novel, and yet, she didn't. In fact, Leticia even blames Trina for what happened to her.

This definitely deserves to be a National Book Award Finalist. Williams-Garcia is commenting on society - as she's done in her other novels - and it's not a commentary that makes me happy to be part of our society or a teacher of adolescents and someone who has a hand in shaping the next generation.

Jamie says

This is one of those books that before you read it, seems like it would be perfect for Reluctant Readers. It's small, about African American girls and impending violence, short chapters, everything. I was really surprised that it had gotten a bit poohpooed at the Quick Picks meeting, because it "seemed" to have it all.

Well, this is why you read the book. Nothing really happens. The whole book is the buildup and it's not very interesting. There is no reason to root for any of the characters, especially since they are thinly drawn.

The 3 stars is because Williams-Garcia really is a good writer, and some of the writing is clever to beautiful.

Vasu Laeietpiboon says

So, after finishing the book, the first thing that I thought is: "That's it?". For me, I don't like this book since I find the conflict of the story quite boring because it's just about a girl (Dominique) beating up another girl (Trina) just because she skipped pass Dominique. For me, I think that's a lame excuse for beating up a

person. I know that she's angry because she can't play basketball due to her bad grades and puts all of her anger to Trina but still it's her fault for getting bad grades. What I also didn't like about this book is that I can basically skip half of the story and still get the idea of teenage violence since that half is just about school life, which is very boring to me. What I liked about this book is that the author writes this book in first person from three different characters so it's quite interesting to read it. So instead of giving this book a one star, I gave it a two star because of the unique writing style. I would recommend this book to people who likes to read simple books and the vocabulary is also very easy so the book is a easy to read book.

Alicia says

All this talk leading up to one event-- jumping Trina because she cut in front of hot-headed Dominique who already has anger issues with not being able to play basketball because of her poor grades.

It's a quick and easy read (I did it in about an hour) from ALA's quick picks for reluctant readers. Especially since the action is broken into three narratives: Trina, who doesn't know that she's going to get jumped; Dominique, who felt dissed by Trina after she cut her off in the hallway; and Leticia, a bystander who knew that the fight was going to happen, but didn't say anything to anyone. Although I'm sure readers will be wishing for more about the fight, it's still the smack-talking, gossip-hungry, invincible attitudes of teens that will keep them interested.

Medeia Sharif says

Dominique is a rough and tough basketball player. Trina is a pretty-in-pink girl who thinks she's all that. But Trina messes up when she brushes past Dominique, breezing through her personal space when Dominique isn't in a good mood. Dominique is in trouble with her coach over her bad grades and she's trying to intimidate a teacher to pull her grade up a notch. Her solution: take her anger out on Trina after school.

Meanwhile, Leticia is a busybody who overhears Dominique's plan to jump Trina. Her friend Bea urges her to tell someone what she knows, that a fight is going to go down. Leticia can either warn clueless Trina--who didn't stick around Dominique to hear the threat--or do nothing at all.

The voice in this novel is amazing. The novel shifts between the three distinctive points of view of these girls. Also, the story takes place in one day, and I eagerly awaited the outcome: what was going to happen after school with these three characters?

Jen says

Told from the alternating viewpoints of three high school students, this book about girl-on-girl violence will leave you with all sorts of what-if scenarios in your head and a need to analyze each of the sympathetically portrayed characters. The end is heartbreaking, particularly the final chapter from Leticia's point-of-view, which shows you how little it can all mean. Jumped is up for the National Book Award--I'd be happy to see it win.

Siri says

This book reminded me a lot of *Inexcusable*. It covers a period of one day, and is told from three different viewpoints (all high school girls). One of the high school girls accidentally bumps another girl in the hallway while walking. This girl takes the "bump" offensively...except the girl who bumped into her didn't even realize she had. The girl who is bumped into decides that the offender needs to be "taught a lesson" (get beat up) and that she will do that after school gets out. A third girl witnesses the whole thing and knows that the "bump" was accidental, and that the girl is now going to get beat up. The entire book is then about this: Do we have a responsibility to speak up when crimes are about to be committed, even if we don't want to get involved, and aren't involved? What if someone is being targeted for an assault, and that person is someone the whole school finds terribly nauseating, and who honestly brought this all on themselves--is turning a blink eye ever ok? If we aren't actually "involved" in a situation, do we bear any responsibility in the outcome even though the situation technically had nothing to do with us? This entire book is about responsibility, and would be a great read for late middle school and high school--especially if paired with *Inexcusable* (about a boy who feels he can do whatever he wants because, after all, he's a "good kid", and "good kids" don't get in trouble). It's short, fast, not real complicated, and would generate lots of discussion.

Jennifer Wardrip says

Reviewed by Grandma Bev for TeensReadToo.com

Trina is a beautiful, bouncy girl who is proud of herself and is sure that everyone envies her looks and personality.

When she is delivering some of her artwork to a teacher for a project, she walks too close to Dominique... "cuts into" her space... and Dominique, who is a tough basketball athlete, takes exception to that. She slams her fist into her other hand, and announces to her friends that Trina is as good as "jumped."

Leticia understands the implications of the threat, but she doesn't want to get involved...and well, she's not sure that she actually saw what she thinks she saw.

JUMPED is a frightening look at teen angst and bullying. This story tells how the lives of three very different teens connect with each other and how the choices they make can have dire consequences. These are very compelling characters, some likable, and some that are not. The suspense builds with nail-biting intensity to an unexpected climax.

Ms. Williams-Garcia has the ability to capture the interactions of tough, inner-city teens better than any other writer today. Their problems really come to life in this fast-paced story that I couldn't put down.

Teen says

This is a great addition to the genre of realistic fiction for African-American girls, although the themes are

relevant to readers of any race. I have a few criticisms, which I'll get out of the way: One of the three characters, the vain, bouncy girl who is the target of another girl's violence, was less believable than the others. I actually would have preferred to just hear from the other two characters: the troubled basketball-playing girl who is looking for an outlet for her anger (who I found to be a very compelling character) and the "average" girl just looking for something to gossip about who could have warned the target that she was in danger. There's a real interest in books about "right and wrong" among teens, but I didn't really see what the dilemma was for the girl who knew what was going to happen: there was no reason for her not to tell the target other than being lazy. We were never told there would be repercussions if she told or that it was a case of snitching. But maybe that was the point: by being lazy, she let something terrible happen. While I don't need books to be super moralizing, it felt odd that the girl who knew what was going to happen never seemed to feel any remorse for not telling. Two girls' lives were ruined and then the book ended abruptly after that. Lots of opportunity for discussion in a class or book group, but less satisfying in itself. Part of the problem was that I wanted to love it as much as I loved "Like Sisters on the Homefront," so my expectations were high. OK, that's more criticism than I intended. Here's some praise: The author does an amazing job of capturing the voices of the three girls, as well as the atmosphere of a high school in general. The part about hating to be sweaty after gym brought back lots of memories. This type of violence seems all too realistic--I was just left with the feeling of "now what?" And maybe that's the point--there is no neat resolution to these situations. It's up to the readers to finish the stories differently in their own lives.

~ Lesley @ DTH

Nathan Hubholz says

This book takes place all in one day with I didn't like that much. I think that the book being placed all in one day makes it very slow paced. I did like the fact about the bullying part where its not just boys being bullied its everyone. I also think that the threat of being punched or pushed is scary but also the emotional part of someone not liking you or hating you.

Jeanne says

The story takes place (mostly) in one day at a large, urban high school. We have three main characters, all female:

- Leticia is the beleaguered cell phone addict, who is mostly interested in gossip and manicures.
- Trina is the bouncy Latina for whom art is everything.
- Dominique is the tough b-baller who's been benched due to poor grades.

When bitter Dominique decides to jump Trina for some perceived slight, it is up to Leticia to warn Trina. Why? Because Trina is oblivious to the alleged incident, Leticia is the only neutral witness to it. She is the only one who can warn Trina. But does Leticia want to get involved? What are the consequences of her silence?

I checked this out because it is a finalist for the National Book Award. Now that I'm finished reading it, I'd love to hear the justification for such an honor. I was not fond of the negative stereotypes portrayed in this

novel, and I thought that the basic plot was pretty idiotic.
