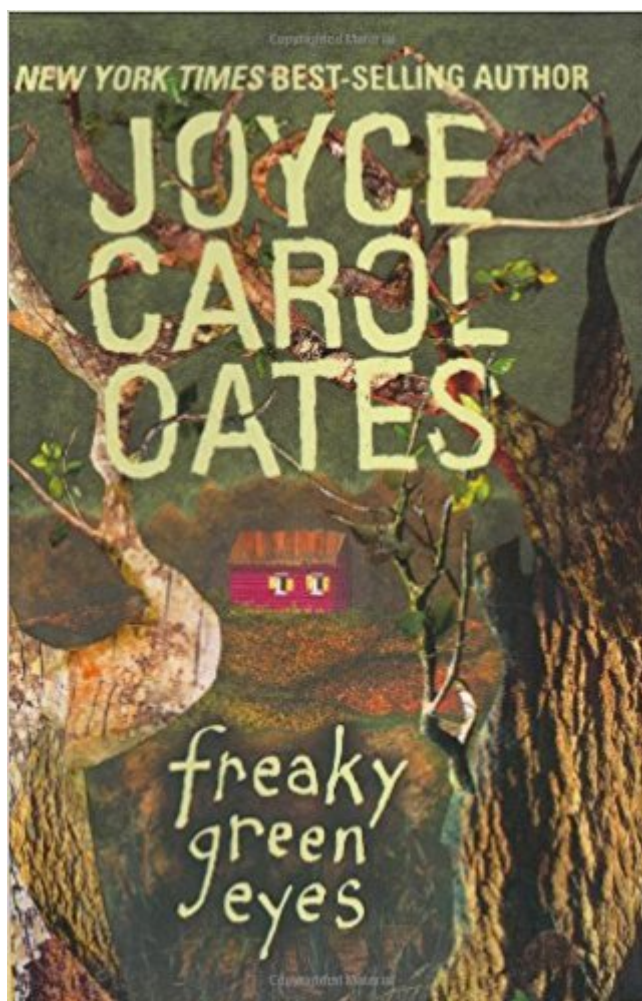


The book was found

Freaky Green Eyes



Synopsis

Later, I would think of it as crossing over. From a known territory into an unknown. From a place where people know you to a place where people only think they know you. It began with me a year ago this past July. A few weeks after my fourteenth birthday. When Freaky Green Eyes came into my heart. When her parents separate, Franky Pierson has no trouble deciding whose side she's on. After all, her mother is the one who chose to leave. And when her mother is suddenly reported missing, Franky believes she's simply pulled a disappearing act and deserted their family for good. But a part of Franky, a part she calls Freaky Green Eyes, knows that something is wrong. And it's up to Freaky to open Franky's eyes to the truth.

Book Information

Age Range: 12 and up

Lexile Measure: 810L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 352 pages

Publisher: HarperTempest; 1st edition (September 1, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0066237599

ISBN-13: 978-0066237596

Product Dimensions: 5 x 1.2 x 7.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 25 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #828,604 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #110 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Dysfunctional Relationships #233 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Abuse #310 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Physical & Emotional Abuse

Customer Reviews

Gr. 7-10. Freaky Green Eyes is the name 15-year-old Franky gives to her stronger self, the part that has to deal with the enigma that is her parents' relationship. With a nod to the O. J. Simpson case, Oates pulls readers into a fast-paced, first-person thriller that begins when Franky's mother, an artist, begins spending alone time at her cabin. It's immediately clear that her situation isn't idyllic; Franky's father, former football hero and popular sportscaster Reid Pierson, is calling the shots as to when his wife can come and go. There's no nuance to Reid's character. He's a charming, controlling bully who rules his family; should his will be thwarted, he gets physical. When Mrs. Pierson and a

male friend disappear, there's also no mystery about who's behind the abduction; the clues, if that's what they are meant to be, are awkwardly dropped. Yet what could have been a predictable plot in the hands of a less-experienced writer becomes an absorbing page-turner as Franky slowly lets herself accept the violence that has always been in her family and finds the courage to stand up to her father. Ilene Cooper

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"The relationship between Ursula and Matt grows, credibly and compellingly, against a convincing high school backdrop. Readers will relate to the pressures these two experience, both at school and from their parents, and be gratified by their ability to emerge the wiser." Publisher's Weekly Praise for Joyce Carol Oates' writing: "Miss Oates is one of our most audaciously talented writers. Her gift is so large, her fluency in different genres - poems, short stories, novels, essays - so great, that at times she seems to challenge the ability of readers to keep up with her." Erica Jong "One of the greatest writers of our time." John Gardner --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Reread another teen book by this author and enjoyed her style of writing so I purchased this one. Can't wait to read. Book came quickly and in great shape.

What a great read!

I bought this from UK. Oh, boy does JCO know how to pack a punch, even when writing YA fiction. Freaky Green Eyes turned out to be a lot, lot darker than I expected. I really like the YA fiction I've read by JCO in the past and was really enjoy this novel, which at first, seemed to be about a teenage girl watching her parent's marriage fall apart. I was already in love with Franky's voice and the way she saw the world. Then her mother goes missing and suddenly Freaky Green Eyes turned into a different, darker book. I loved it. I thought Franky/Freaky was a great character. She was clearly suffering from some version of the Electra complex by ignoring signs that her father was a bastard but she did the right thing in the end. I'd highly recommend Freaky Green Eyes.

I thought this book sounded really interesting from the synopsis. Alter ego? Missing parent? Sounds like a good story set up. Unfortunately, I was fooled. I really didn't care for this book, even from disc 1, but I kept on trucking. I thought Freaky was going to be almost like a different personality, like

Franky was going to be someone else, but really, Freaky is sort of the voice of reason and smart aleck comments inside Franky's head. There wasn't anything exciting about Freaky, now the book. While the book as a whole is well-written, there are no surprises or twists. Everything is exactly what it looks like. This book deals a lot with physical abuse, which is a horrible, horrible thing, and I didn't not like the book due to what it dealt with because I gave Split a 5 star review and it was much more detailed than any abuse in this book; I just didn't care much for a lot of this book, not just the subject matter. Franky was a character I couldn't connect with or empathize with. It seemed like from her point, it was okay that her mother was abused, and even a few times she said that if her mom would act right, she wouldn't be abused. So she is saying her mother deserves being beaten? Franky is the perfect candidate for a battered wife later in life. This is one of my least favorite audiobooks, too. The narrator didn't do badly, but aside from her reading kind of slow and her pauses being too long, I could hear a bunch of thumps and bumps in the background through the entire book. There was even a couple of times I thought there was something wrong with my car (I listen while I drive) and it drove me crazy. The only parts I did kind of like were the two police interviews. I didn't like the first one initially, but when they did the second one, I liked it much better. I am glad this was a stand alone, I just don't know if I could go more than 6 discs for this one. I saw plenty of reviews where people loved this book, but it just wasn't my cup of tea. Slow, no surprises or excitement, didn't care for the main character, not a good recording.

This book is my favorite of all of Joyce Carol Oates Young Adult Fiction. It has echoes of Othello and plumbs the depths of a jealous mind. Thrilled to include it in Dr. Bickmore's YA Course. Check out the other books we are using at Dr. Bickmore's YA Wednesday.

Prolific author Joyce Carol Oates delivers yet again with FREAKY GREEN EYES. With a plot that gradually unfolds to expose a family's destructive private life, this book covers a topic touched upon by many but seldom handled so artfully. As in her previous novels, such as WE WERE THE MULVANEYS, Oates unveils a family that is picture-perfect to the world at large but dysfunctional and horrific behind closed doors. The narrator -- Franky -- unveils the true nature of her father slowly, shocking the reader by the level of her own denial, but is blunt with her criticism towards her mother, whom she views as weak and unloving for moving away. The reader will want to love Reid, the broadcaster and former football star, as the world does, but something is not "right" about how ordered he keeps his family. When their mother leaves, Franky and her younger sister Samantha have no buffer in their lives and begin to see their dad's true nature. The strength of FREAKY

GREEN EYES is Oates' narrator and manner of narration. Descriptions are scant and to the point, dialogue is crisp and revealing, and her use of foreknowledge keeps the reader feeling "edgy" until the climax. The reader sees Franky's world through the flawed understanding of a co-dependent child in an abusive home. Children in this type of environment react to the truth as they see it, not as it necessarily really is, and often quite illogically. In this regard, Joyce's "voice" for Franky is quite realistic. A girl her age would not be able to handle things any better than she does in this novel. But Franky's strengths are as realistic as her shortcomings. Her growth as a character begins in the first chapter and continues to the story's conclusion. "Freaky Green Eyes" is the willful, strong side of her personality, first unveiled while fending off a rapist, a side she relies heavily upon as she begins to doubt her father's version of events regarding her mother's eventual disappearance. The realism of Franky's flaws and strengths gives her story strong appeal. This is a masterful young adult novel about the sensitive subject of domestic violence. Readers will empathize with children growing up in such an environment after reading it. Highly recommended. Five stars. Reviewed by: Mark Frye, author and reviewer

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