

Dumplin' by Julie Murphy – book review



Publisher : Balzer + Bray; Reprint edition (March 14, 2017)

7th grade reading lists

Book Review Quotes:

“This is me. Back me up or back the fuck out.”

“Marcus mumbles something about PMS and to my surprise, from the kitchen, Bo says, “Why can’t she just be having a shitty day? You don’t need to make up some bullshit reason why.”

“He meets me where I am, and because of the downward tilt of the driveway, we are toe to toe, nose to nose. “Willowdean Opal Dickson, you are beautiful. Fuck anyone who’s ever made you

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feel anything less.” His chest heaves. “When I close my eyes, I see you. I can talk to you. In a way I never have with anyone else.”

“Plus having sex doesn’t make you a woman. That is so freaking cliché. If you want to have sex, have sex, but don’t make it this huge thing that carries all this weight. You’re setting yourself up for disappointment.”

Reviews:

Common Sense Media - This is a fun read for older teens. My issue for younger kids is there is much talk about sex and some pretty descriptive scenes surrounding sex and kissing. Language can be strong in spots, and it is completely unneeded. I feel the author missed the mark by adding in what she thinks kids want, which is sex and language.

Bookrags - Ellen has been talking to Willowdean about losing her virginity to Tim since not long after they started dating a year and a half ago. Willowdean, who has no sexual experience, is as open and supportive of Ellen as she knows how to be. The thought of Ellen losing her virginity before her makes her uncomfortable, but Willowdean tries to be as objective as possible. Dumplin' is a more progressive novel as most Texans today advocate abstinence over safe sex. (Willowdean is a high-school teenager)

RED FLAGS

Sexual Content

Language

CONCLUSION

Not appropriate literary content for K-12 schools