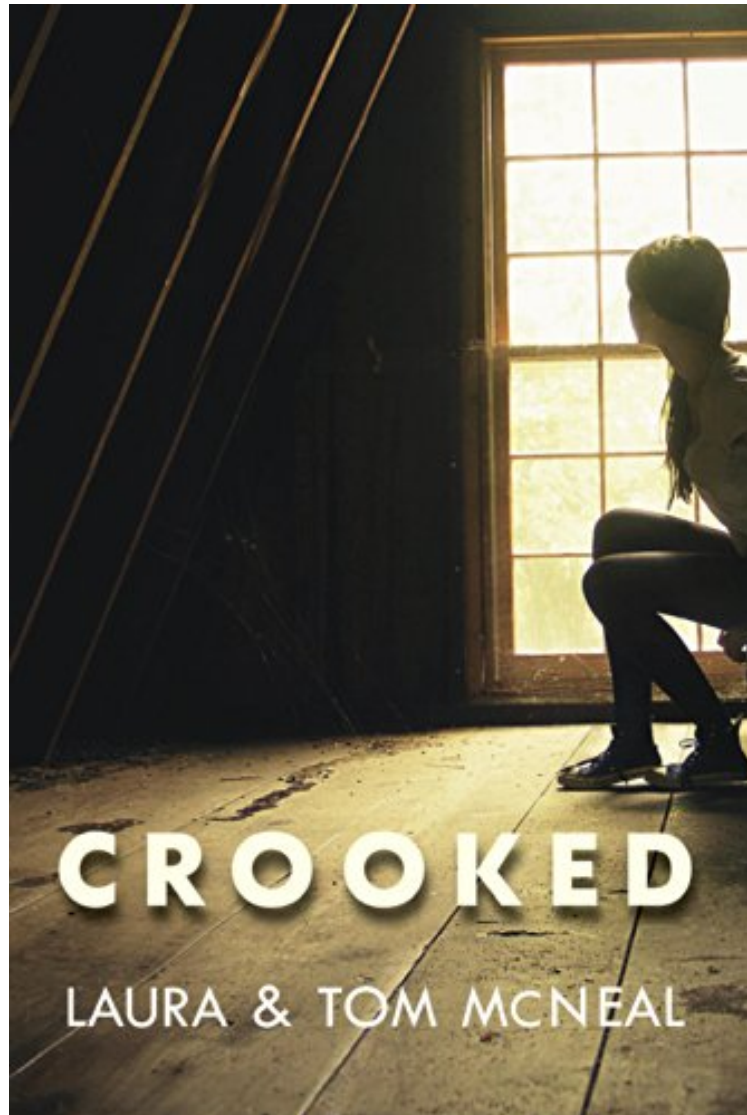


[Free pdf] Crooked

Crooked

Von Laura McNeal, Tom McNeal
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Von Laura McNeal, Tom McNeal : Crooked before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Crooked:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A heart warming story for people of all ages!Von Debbie L. DuckworthEven though I am well beyond the ninth grade, I found this book to be utterly delightful. It captured the very essence of my tumultuous teenage years filled with insecurities and confusion. Although I did not suffer from a crooked nose, as Clara did, I could feel her pain in my remembrance of (perceived) physical defects with which I had to bear. I, too, wanted desperately to have friendships with classmates

who treated me poorly, yet, I persisted in pursuing their approval. Throughout the book, I found that I could easily identify with the struggles with which Clara, Amos, and Bruce had to deal, whether they were with family tragedies, school issues, or peer pressure. And in the end, I was reminded of the true essence of beauty and personal worth, which brought a smile to my face and to my heart. I eagerly await future works from the McNeals!

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Memorable Adolescent Fare Von C. Karabensh

As a teacher at the middle school level, I can well understand the insecurities and emotional changes inherent in adolescents. While I was reading *Crooked*, I was struck by the absolute reality of the intense feelings that Clara and Amos had about absolutely everything. This, added to the parallel happenings both in their home lives (his father's death and her mother's disappearance) and in their outside worlds, (his being stalked and her misplaced attraction to the stalker) kept me turning the pages. I have wholeheartedly recommended *Crooked* to the school librarian and to students of both my drama and English classes. I have also recommended *Crooked* to friends who would like to better interpret and appreciate the ups and downs of the young adult. We anxiously await the next McNeal book!

Kurzbeschreibung

A New York Public Library Book for the Teen Age
A California Book Award Winner for Juvenile Literature
An ALA-YALSA Top Ten Best Book for Young Adults
A Booklist Top Ten Youth Romance

Clara Wilson and Amos MacKenzie are finding their lives turned upside down: by each other, by fickle friendships, by failing families, and by the two meanest brothers in town. As the pressures of high school and home life collide, Clara and Amos struggle to maintain their identities amid the chaos. Honesty may be the answer...but it can be awfully hard to find.

From the Hardcover edition. From Kirkus sPLB 0-679-99300-2

In a story that sprawls over the thematic landscape, two teenagers are shaken by sudden family losses and menaced by a pair of genuinely scary hoodlums as they fumble their way toward intimacy. Despite all hints, Amos is surprised when his father dies of stomach cancer; meanwhile, his classmate Clara watches as her parents separate and her mother takes a teaching job overseas. Enter bad-news siblings Charles and Eddie Tripp; when Amos witnesses them vandalizing mailboxes, Charles lays him out with a baseball bat, then mounts a clever campaign of terror to ensure his silence. Coached by his sinister older brother, Eddie begins stalking Clara, with intentions that seem simultaneously leering and romantic. Other than one friend, Bruce, whose presence is an obvious attempt at comic relief, Amos and Clara are otherwise surrounded by oblivious, ineffectual, or malicious peers and adults. Although a series of missteps gives their budding romance an engaging coltishness, there is so much anger, fear, and grief here, as well as brutality and betrayal, that the story can be deadening. Switching point-of-view from Amos to Clara in alternating chapters, the McNeals (*The Dog Who Lost His Bob*, 1996) drive their cast to a contrived but terrifying attempted rape, then end on a sour note, with a flat Thanksgiving and the news that Charles is back in juvie-but only for a few months. (Fiction. 12-15) -- Copyright 1999, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.

From Library Journal

Grade 6-10-In this fine first novel set in upstate New York, two ordinary teens navigate the complicated, sometimes scary world they inhabit. Clara Wilson, 14, has a crooked nose, a best friend who deserts her, and parents who argue all the time. When her mother accepts a teaching job in Spain, Clara feels abandoned and resentful. Fellow ninth-grader Amos MacKenzie has parents who embarrass him, and keep secrets from him. He enjoys a newfound popularity after being attacked by the town bad boys, Charles and Eddie Tripp, but is lost and confused when his father unexpectedly dies following exploratory surgery. His budding relationship with Clara is his only consolation. When the Tripp brothers vow revenge on Amos for reporting them to the police, he and Clara face intimidation, which draws them even closer together. In a dramatic climax, the Tripps break into her house and corner her in the attic. The McNeals' recognition of the angst of junior high with its fickle friendships, bullies, and first love make their novel one that mirrors real life. The characters' actions and reactions ring true as they try to cope with all of the changes that life has dealt them and still maintain a grasp on who they are. For most of the novel, the story is told from the alternating viewpoints of the two main characters, but in the climactic final chapters, their voices become blended. Readers will come away knowing that even though their paths have taken some unexpected twists and turns, these young people are on a straight and sure course.

Janet Hilbun, formerly at Sam Houston Middle School, Garland, TX Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.