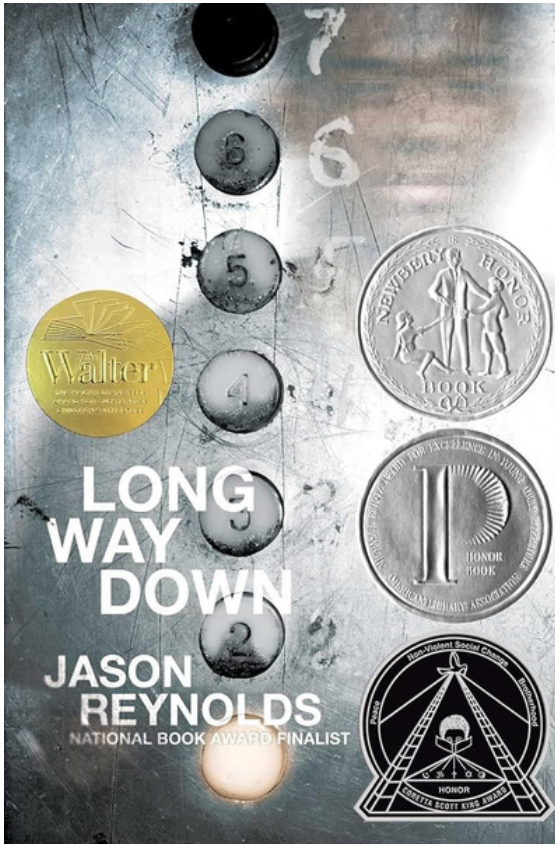




Long Way Down

by Jason Reynolds

Review by Natalie



Realistic fiction

What originally made you interested in reading/watching/playing this media? How did you hear about it or come across it?

I do Early College at NECC through my high school, and we have to take an English class each semester. In one of my English classes Long Way Down was the book that was assigned to my class, and we had to write a 5 page essay about the book following a prompt. At first I wasn't very interested in it considering the different style of the book, but as I kept reading the book started to become more interesting and exciting.

Is it part of a series? If so, what series is it?

No

What is this media about? Make sure to give enough interesting details without spoiling too much!

Long Way Down is about a 15-year old boy named Will Holloman whose older brother, Shawn, was shot and killed right in their own neighborhood. Will is then learning to have to deal with the grief of losing his big brother, while also having to follow "the rules". The rules consist of three things, the first one is you cannot cry, no matter how much you want to. The second one is don't snitch, even if you know who did it, and the last one is to always get revenge for the person you love that was killed. Going along with family traditions, Will comes up with a plan to "kill" who he

thinks killed his brother, he finds Shawn's gun in his drawer and enters the elevator of his apartment to go down and attempt to "complete" his plan. As the elevator descends, strange events start to happen, at each level someone new and familiar to Will enters. Will is then stuck with having to choose to follow the rules and carry out his plan, or end them once and for all.

Who are the main characters? What makes them interesting or unique?

There is mainly only one important main character that the story follows through his perspective, and that is Will Holloman. Will is an interesting character because he is so young, and he was raised in a family that follows those three rule which makes him think he also needs to follow those same rules, even though they bring violence. Something unique about Will is that he has been known to be the young innocent boy of the family, he has never included himself in violence which makes his plan very out of the ordinary for him. This also makes him make the plot of the book very interesting because it raises a question of, is he going to do it or not?

Does this media remind you of anything else you've read/watched/played?

No, this was a different style of writing than anything else that I've read before. The structure, tone, and style was more fast-paced, and not like a normal book that all the pages are full of writing.

What type of person might enjoy this media? For example, this book is for someone who likes Percy Jackson, someone who enjoys getting scared, someone who likes a challenge, etc.

The type of person who might enjoy Long Way down would be someone who enjoys emotionally intense stories, someone who likes the focus on real-world issues, and someone who is a very fast paced reader.

Did you like this media? Would you recommend it to others? Why or why not?

Yes, I liked this media and I would recommend it to others. I would recommend it because it is a very suspenseful book, and you are wondering the whole time if he is truly going to carry out his plan or not. It is also a very different style that can open up people's minds more, and make them more interested in all the different kinds of writing and structures that many authors do.

Do you like the cover? Does it convey what the media is about?

Yes, I like the cover and I believe it conveys what the media is about very well. The main plot is Will being in the elevator, and all of these people that he knows are entering and speaking with him. The cover shows the elevator buttons of each numbered floor that Will is stopped at, which is a very good representation of how it all connects together in the end.

Do you have any last thoughts about this media that you would like to include in your review?