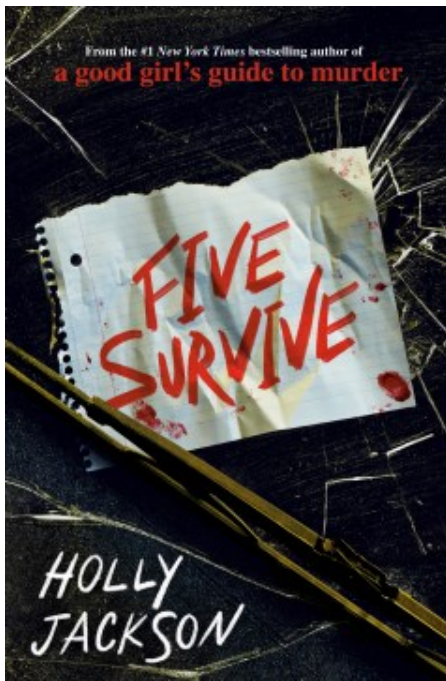


Teen Book Reviews



Five survive

by Holly Jackson

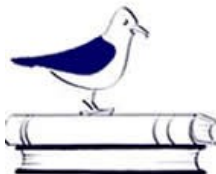
Genre: Mystery/Thriller

Summary: Red and her friends are taking an old RV on a road trip for Spring Break, driving from Philadelphia to the southern coast. But when they get lost on the way to a campsite in South Carolina and break down well after dark, things take a turn for the worse. With no cell service and no one to help, they begin to realize that their tire didn't just pop – it was shot. As things escalate, they realize that the sniper is after a secret and won't release them until the truth is revealed. The beginning of this book was fairly exciting and really captured my interest. This book is fast-paced and takes place over a period of less than one day. It's a definite thriller. One thing I wished was different about the book was the tone of the writing, at times felt a bit immature for the subject matter. However, the characters

were well written with unique personalities, and I enjoyed seeing how they each handled the stress differently. The author also really illustrated how basic humanity can be lost and turned into something horrifying and ugly in a situation like this that is so frightening and puts a group in such a vulnerable position. This is tense and requires a little stretching of the imagination to make it work, but it's a fun, quick read. At times I thought the plot of the mystery was a little far fetched but I enjoyed the unveiling of it all. I'm still a little side-eye about the reality of it but, hey, I'm suspending the disbelief. I would recommend this book to teens, specifically those who love locked room mysteries with high stakes.

Rating: 3 out of 5

Reviewed by Courtnee H.



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