

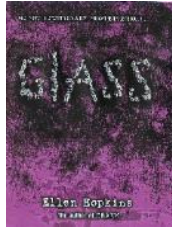
New Arrivals

Never put off till tomorrow the book you can read today.
Holbrook Jackson, The Anatomy of Bibliomania (1930)

1 Hopkins, Ellen

Crank and Glass (the sequel)

Young Adult Fiction



The Story behind Crank and Glass in Hopkins' own words

Crank is loosely based on my older daughter's story of addiction to crystal meth.

Released in October 2004, the novel, my first, quickly found a following, due to its timely subject matter, interesting format and honest portrayal of a "good girl's" fall from grace.

Crank began as a personal exploration of the "why's" behind my daughter's decisions, and what part I might have played in them.

By writing the story from "my daughter's" perspective, I learned a lot, both about her, and about myself. But I also learned a lot about the nature of addiction, and the physiology of this particular substance. For those struggling with similar addictions, there is help, but the road to recovery is not easy. The addict has to want to get well.

Rehabilitation cannot be forced.

For those who love someone struggling with addiction, learn as much as you can about how a substance works on the brain.

This will help divorce you from the overwhelming emotion involved.

The Story

Seventeen-year-old Kristina Snow is introduced to crank on a trip to visit her wayward father. Caught up in a fast-paced, frightening, and unfamiliar world, she morphs into "Bree" after she "shakes hands with the monster." Her fearless, risk-taking alter ego grows stronger, "convincing me to be someone I never dreamed I'd want to be." When Kristina goes home, things don't return to normal. Although she tries to reconnect with her mother and her former life as a good student, her drug use soon takes over, leaving her "starving for speed" and for boys who will soon leave her scarred and pregnant. Hopkins writes in free-verse poems that paint painfully sharp images of Kristina/Bree and those around her, detailing how powerful the "monster" can be. The poems are masterpieces of word, shape, and pacing, compelling readers on to the next chapter in Kristina's spiraling world. This is a topical page-turner and a stunning portrayal of a teen's loss of direction and realistically uncertain future.

Excerpts

Flirtin' with the Monster

*Life was good
before I
met*

the monster

*After,
life*

was great,

*At
least*

for a little while.

Just Before The Drop

*You know how you
stand and stand and stand
in line for the most
gigantic incredible roller*

coaster

you've ever dared attempt.

*Anticipation swelling,
minute by minute by minute,
you choose to wait even
longer, to ride in the front*

car

and finally it's your turn.

*They buckle you in, lock the
safety bar with a jolting clunk!
Hook engaged, the chain jerks
you forward. You start to*

climb

Crank-crank-crank.

*Cresting the top, time
moves into overtime
as you wait for that scant
hesitation, just before you*

drop

*You know how you feel
at that instant? Well, that's
exactly how it feels when you
shake hands with the
monster.*

What teens are saying:

this was the best book i have ever read it keeps you wanting more and never lets you go (just like the monster) the fact that it has a ever twisting love story, drug addiction, and a worthless father/ annoying step father it would be hard to find one person that could not relate to the book in some way plus the fact that it is written in poems makes it all its own.

i'm reading it now, and the first day i read it, i got through the first like, 400 pages. even though it's written in verse and not like, proper chapters, that's still alot. i love it, i got the recommendation from the book Go Ask Alice, which if you haven't read and you like Crank, totally read it. it's awesome

Everyone at my school has been talking about this book and how great it is and how they couldnt put it down but i figured it was just like any other book. One of my friends let me borrow it to read and i seriously could not put it down at all. I read all through the school day that night and the next day. I finished in 2 days...I have never in my life read a book that fast and i can not wait to start reading Glass

this book was one of the best i've ever read!

Crank is the best book I have ever read, it took me through twists and turns that anybody can go through in real life. Once you start to read the book it will never leave your hands, you will keep reading till you hit the very last page. Then you will go and buy the second book, yeah its that good.