

Revenge of a Not-So-Pretty Girl

By Carolita Blythe

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Fans of Walter Dean Myers and Rita Williams-Garcia's *One Crazy Summer* will cherish this gripping story of an African American girl living in 1980s Brooklyn, who overcomes abuse and neglect in discovering real friendship, self-respect, and that pretty and mean don't always win.

Girls who are pretty have a way of looking down their perfect noses at anyone they feel isn't worthy of sharing the air with them. They have a way of making regular girls like me feel inferior for not winning the gene pool lottery. Tormenting them is my way of getting even.

Everyone knows that pretty equals mean, and Evelyn Ryder used to be a beautiful movie star—never mind that it was practically a lifetime ago. There's no time limit on mean. So if you think I feel guilty about mugging her, think again.

But for something that should have been so simple, it sure went horribly wrong.

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A Bankstreet Best Book of the Year

"Definitely a page-turner!"--Seventeen.com

"Exhilarating . . . compelling and believable."—*Kirkus Reviews*, Starred


"A well-told story of an empowering friendship."—*The Bulletin*, Recommended


"This realistic portrayal of emotions, decisions, and hardships will appeal to teens who are also struggling with their identities."—*SLJ*

"Blythe, in her first book for teens, explores karma, guilt, morality, and taking responsibility for one's actions. . . . the story provides a thoughtful glimpse of what it's like to reevaluate one's life at any age."—*Publisher's Weekly*

"This is a classic coming-of-age story . . . Faye's personal growth and her eventual escape from a dark home life are rewarding."—*Booklist*

From the Hardcover edition.

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Revenge of a Not-So-Pretty Girl By Carolita Blythe Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 7-10-Faye, 14, feels worthless and oppressed. Her father, a struggling musician, left her and her mother years earlier, her mother is full of anger and takes it out on the teen, and her two neighborhood friends have convinced her that if you aren't attractive, the only way to make it in life is to take what you want. The novel, which is set in 1984 Brooklyn, opens with Faye and her friends staking out a former movie star's apartment so they can take her money. The robbery goes awry and the elderly lady ends up sprawled across the floor. Faye finds herself returning to the scene of the crime a few days later. What ensues is a journey to find herself. Faye befriends the old woman and begins to question her life choices. Faye's mother is realistically flawed, as are all of the adults in the novel, and Blythe offers no easy solutions for turning one's life around. The tough-talking Faye slips up and her road to maturity isn't smooth. This realistic portrayal of emotions, decisions, and hardships will appeal to teens who are also struggling with their identities.-Tammy Turner, Centennial High School, Frisco, TXα(c) Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

From [Booklist](#)

If beauty is on the inside, Faye certainly doesn't have much going for her at the start of this book, set in Brooklyn in the mid-1980s. She and her friends rob an elderly woman who they believe was once a movie star. During the robbery, Faye accidentally injures Evelyn quite severely. Haunted by guilt, and desperate to find a way to escape her mother's abusive home as much as she can, Faye returns to the apartment to check on Evelyn, and the two develop the most unlikely of friendships. This is a classic coming-of-age story wherein Faye must face her own burden of responsibility and break free from the detrimental expectations of others. Peppered with '80s pop-culture references, but otherwise untethered to the era, the book sometimes feels dated instead of retro. But Faye's personal growth and her eventual escape from a dark home life are rewarding, as is the quirky friendship between Faye and Evelyn, from which Faye learns much about responsibility and individuality. Grades 6-9. --Heather Booth

Review

Starred Review, [Kirkus Reviews](#), March 15, 2013:

“Solidly grounded in the gritty realities of daily life, Faye’s discoveries feel earned. A compelling and believable journey.”

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Edward Salazar:

The actual book *Revenge of a Not-So-Pretty Girl* will bring that you the new experience of reading any book. The author style to elucidate the idea is very unique. Should you try to find new book to see, this book very acceptable to you. The book *Revenge of a Not-So-Pretty Girl* is much recommended to you to read. You can also get the e-book through the official web site, so you can quicker to read the book.

Jacqueline Ramos:

A lot of people always spent all their free time to vacation or perhaps go to the outside with them friends and family or their friend. Were you aware? Many a lot of people spent that they free time just watching TV, or even playing video games all day long. If you want to try to find a new activity this is look different you can read some sort of book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book that you just read you can spent the entire day to reading a reserve. The book *Revenge of a Not-So-Pretty Girl* it doesn't matter what good to read. There are a lot of individuals who recommended this book. These people were enjoying reading this book. If you did not have enough space to deliver this book you can buy the actual e-book. You can m0ore quickly to read this book from a smart phone. The price is not to cover but this book provides high quality.

Mike Costello:

Why? Because this *Revenge of a Not-So-Pretty Girl* is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap this but latter it will shock you with the secret the item inside. Reading this book next to it was fantastic author who else write the book in such amazing way makes the content interior easier to understand, entertaining approach but still convey the meaning thoroughly. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This unique book will give you a lot of advantages than the other book get such as help improving your skill and your critical thinking method. So , still want to hold off having that book? If I had been you I will go to the guide store hurriedly.

Corey Watts:

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