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Book Review

Shudders in the Dark

by Ruskin Bond

INTRODUCTION:

I chose this book because I love reading stories by Ruskin Bond. His writing style is simple, with a good collection of stories. When I found out that the book titled "Shudders in the Dark" is a collection of horror stories, I got very anxious to read it. I expected spooky, wierd, spine thrilling stories—and it met my expectations. The book has just the right mixture or blend of mystery, fear, and surprises and spine chilling events.

SUMMARY:

Shudders in the Dark is a collection of short stories that are scary, strange, and mysterious. Each story is different and keeps you wondering what will happen next. The characters are not fictional, but the real day to day characters bring in the feel. For example, there is a man in the story "The Perfect Murder" who thinks he can commit a perfect murder or crime without getting caught or leaving any evidence. Consequentially, he gave up this musing. while in the other story, "The White Wolf of the Hartz Mountain", it is about a traveller who finds shelter in a very strange house during a heavy storm, ends up discovering something very strange or peculiar about the family living there.

Besides, The book also deals with other type of fears like not just fear of ghosts or creepy weird creatures, but also fear that comes from any guilt, or loneliness, or being in the wrong place at the wrong time. Few stories even highlights the fate of people who constantly do bad things or commit sins faces surprising punishments and pain, ends up digging there own grave.

ANALYSIS & OPINION:

One of the best things about this book is that each story keeps you guessing. Some stories are truly scary, making u have goosebumps, while others make you stop and think. I especially liked The Perfect Murder because the character was so sure and confident of himself, but in the end, something unexpected happens. There is a quote in the story that says, "When you think you've got away with something, remember—fate is always watching." That line is just an icing on the cake.

Although some stories are much more stronger than others, but less or more,all of them are interesting in their own way. The book has just the right amount of suspense,curiosity and fear without being too violent or disturbing.

PERSONAL CONNECTION:

This book gave me goosebumps with a spine-chilling experience. It also compelled me to also think about how fear works for a human brain. Sometimes, fear comes from inside us, not even necessarily by seeing something disturbing. I liked how the stories made me curious and kept me turning the pages. Even after finishing the book, I kept thinking about some of the scenes with their another possibke ending. It led me to overthink about some of the cases, especially during my sleep time on my bed. Some nights smells fishy, so I have to put on the lights to ensure no being is accompaning me.

CONCLUSION:

I would definitely recommend the book Shudders in the Dark to

one who enjoys ghost stories or eerie tales with a deeper meaning. It's a great collection that mixes fear, mystery, curiosity, weirdness and thoughtful messages in a way that's easy to read and hard to forget.