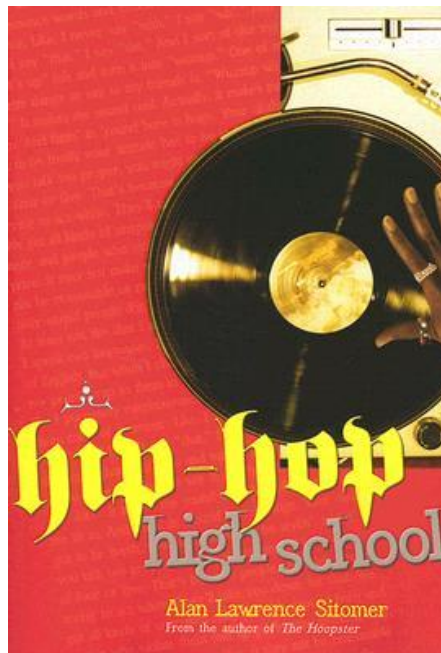




Hip-Hop High School

Alan Sitomer

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Theresa Anderson is every kind of smart: too smart-mouthed for her own good, street smart enough to deal with a neighborhood that gets more dangerous every day, and more book smart than anyone knows. But with the example of her super-achieving older brother towering above her, Theresa hasn't even been trying. How can a girl compete against the family favorite, especially when he's a certified local hero? With her parents and her teachers always on her case, and her best friend pregnant and dropped out of school, Theresa turns to hip-hop for comfort. Her favorite singers seem to understand her when no one else does.

Everything changes when a new man comes into Theresa's life: Devon, whose tough-guy reputation conceals a blazing ambition for academic success. Devon helps Theresa face up to her own talent and ambition, and together they set off on a three-year quest to beat the SAT and get into top colleges. But then Devon gets shot in a street fight, leaving Theresa with two piles of unfinished college applications-her own and Dev's-and time running out. . . .

Hip-Hop High School Details

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From Reader Review Hip-Hop High School for online ebook

Kristy Cabrera says

I ordered this book for my 7th grade students; I wanted to include it in the SSR cart based on a few reviews I had seen. A few months ago, one of my students told me that "it was good" and I didn't push her to go into depth on that stirring review.

Recently I picked this up to read during our morning SSR, and initially I was turned off by the hip-hop slang/dialect. It seemed unnecessary and exaggerated, but it grew more fitting as the story played out and as the main character, Teresa Anderson (affectionately known as T.A. or "Tee-Ay" in the book) matures. By the end of the book I was crying when she finally overcomes all of the obstacles she has faced: gang violence at her school, kids dropping out, her best friend getting pregnant, etc, etc. As a (former) high school teacher, I really appreciated reading a story that treated the reality of going to an urban school with honesty and respect. The story is believable and at the same time inspiring.

If you're looking for something to recommend to a reluctant younger reader, or if you're just into young-adult lit anyway, this would be a great pick.

Trevor Balsley says

Hip Hop High school is a great book for me because I am in high school my self. It shows a different perspective of what I experience day to day at high school, and highlights how unfair most of life and the school system is. The whole book is written with hip hop slang and dialect, and with the underlying theme of hip hop culture.

Tyler Swasey says

Theresa and her best friend Cee Saw go through their sophomore year with ups and downs. Theresa's goal is to pass the SAT this year but her journey to do that goes up and down. There school is a hip hop high school so it is really ghetto and they dont have as much as more safisticated schools do. Theresa and her best friend are invited to a party and it gets booked so her parents are mad and upset because she wasnt supposed to be there. Cee Saw her best friend gets pregnant and she has to drop out of school to take care of her baby. Tee wants to try to get into USC. Devon Hampton her friend and guy she studies with didnt even finish out filling out his college applications and he gets shot in the neck. Tee finishes the application before its to late and sends in the the applications out. Tee is a girl who runs her mouth a little to much but she wants to be successful and not drop out or anything. Cee Saw her best friend they go through good times but at a couple points they werent even speaking, but when she got pregnant Tee was there through everything. The minor characters in the book is the mom dad, and her annoying little brother. Theresa Andersons mom is always hard on her through everything because she wants her to be successful. If she was to get grounded it would be for her own good and Theresa was grounded the weekend of a party and she had to sneak to it. This guy Theresa meets at the party is trying to force her to have sex with her in the bedroom but she stops herself for making the biggest mistake and denys it but he left her. Cee Saw her best friend does have sex with him and gets her pregant and that is a problem because she is only in high school. The conflict in this book is how Theresa Anderson is going the pass the SAT and she talks about it throughout the book and how she is going to get accepted to USC. The way the conflict was solved i dissagree to it because Cee kept the baby. Cee

went to counseling and had the choice of other options like getting an abortion but she didn't. The fact that she didn't means she had no other choice but to drop out of high school and not get an education. The theme of this book is to never stop trying to achieve something and to believe in yourself. Theresa wanted to pass all her classes and she never gave up no matter how hard it was and everything distracting her. The theme is effectively communicated because it is everyday teen problems. The theme applies to my life because at our age we go through the same struggles with teachers and colleges and friends. The book did appeal to me I relate to her so much it helps me realize to never give up on your dreams and for Theresa she was not going to let nothing stop her from doing that no matter what she was going through or anything. I would recommend this book to another high school student who feels like they are going through the same struggles it's a good book to read if you feel like that.

Maria Rivera says

One present I would give to Tee-Ayy (Theresa Anderson) is a SAT prep guide. Because she is crazy about getting a high score in the SAT

Josh Newhouse says

I want to love these books... but they feel clichéd and melodramatic... I have no doubt that students will enjoy parts of this book, but other parts feel preachy and like the author is talking directly to the reader... soapbox... I am also troubled by what amounts at times to gratuitous content like use of the word "ti**y" in a internal monologue...

Plus there are things that just don't make sense. Characters change motivations and personalities to fit the story not with any sense of development...

My favorite character may be Sonia who disappears halfway through the book into her own book... T. A. bears down, but there is just false drama... the shooting is predictable and the after events as well...

I also think the dialogue sometimes reads true and other times reads like a teacher trying to make it read true...

All that being said, if the content was toned down I would put the books into my middle school collection in a heartbeat... kids will read them... and some will find inspiration...

In a sidenote, I was intrigued enough by the description of the Autobiography of Malcolm X to go check it out and it's on my list now...

Josh

Kelly Rodriguez says

I really enjoyed this book because I was able to visualize it. I can see it become a movie, because I really

liked the story. It was a nice reminder about how it doesn't matter where you grew up, where you come from, or what obstacles get in your way, anyone can do what they want, if they're truly hungry for it.

Ms. Schneeman says

Really glad I finally read it and definitely teared up at the moment with Mr Wardin at the end... I was slightly irritated with two things, however: 1) the repetition of "fo' sho" and "we high-fived, slap-slap-bump on the down-low" 8 million times; and 2) the fact that the jerk jock/villain got rejected by the USC football program because of his grades and character but accepted by Notre Dame!!!! Alan Sitomer must have it out for the Irish...

Anthony says

Cee sam bobbed her head up and down , watching all the folks fill the room .Some good stuff gonna be happening this year. She said to me “good stuff dat straight up girl answered back as we traded another slap slap bump high five on the down low. His life is weird , its like speaking two languages. In the head i talk a normal kind of english , but when i chat with my friends or any of my peers i rap to them in this kind of ghetto slag.its like i purposely mispronounce words and disobey all them rules of grammar.actually it makes me fit in, and fittin in round here is huge.

Jalen Parrish says

The book is about a girl named Theresa Anderson. And she is talking about her life as a high school girl. Theresa also know as Tee-Ay has a best friend of the name Cee Saw but her real name is Constancy Eloina sawyer. She and Tee-Ay been friends for years. Theresa one day was grounded for something her brother did and she got grounded. And she wanted to go to a party so she had to sneak out with Constancy. So a couple hours later there at the party and Constancy is getting drunk and Theresa sees the boy see like at the party and see says hi to him and then he ask her to go to the bedroom with him and she felt real nervous.

There are many reason why I like this book. Because it help me see how high school girls think. The second reason why I like this book is that it is not boring I could see this book for days but i just cant do that like that but cant. The second reason why this book is good is that the book gives you a insight how girls think about each other and other people. The third thing that I like about this book is how see feels one way and is easily can by her disjoins because of her best friend which can give you good information. The fourth reason why I like this book is that on every page it keep me into the book like some others failed to do. The last reason why i like this book is that the book just keeps everything together don't just go all over the place with this one.

The character should great transmission from being to end keeping her part the way it is. Theresa has many parts in the story that has some flaws but she is still a great character. Like when she gets in trouble be her mother it seems like she uses the same excuse each time. But other than that I would recommend this book to many people that like to know about high school and girls.

Mweatherbe says

The book "Hip-Hop High School" is about how a girl name Theresa Anderson goes through problems in an urban school. Theresa starts off by talking about her friends and the crowd she hangs around. The main person that she talks about is her best friend Constancy Sawyer(Cee-saw). Her and Cee-Saw have been going through pair-pressure that has made them do a lot of bad things like cheating, partying, and having sex without protection. Which have put them into a lot of bad situations like getting a zero on a test, kicked out a their home, and having a baby. Also, the narrator has talked about her relationship life. Her having boyfriends and never finding the right one. Not until she notices that the one boy for her is right in front of her eyes the whole time, which is her friend name Devon. After, the narrator talks about that in the book, the author ends the book off with the narrator maturing into a woman that learned from her mistakes.

The book has had some strengths to it which made it interesting. For example, the narrator talking in slang to show how she was living a urban life and surrounded by urban people. Like when she was talking to her friend Cee-Saw. Which made another, strength that the author had was that the author would describe the narrator making a decision on the inside of her. Like in the beginning of the book when she had to decide from letting her friend cheat off her test or not. Which made the reader more engage with the book and the narrator thoughts.

There might have been some strengths, but there was only one weakness. Which was, when the narrator continually kept saying the words for SAT, after almost every word she described out of her mouth. When the author described in the beginning of the book when she talked about letting Cee-Saw cheat off her test. Which is annoying because the narrator doesn't have to do that after every problem she went through.

Terrell says

Hip Hop High School

Sitomer, Alan Lawrence was the author of this book and this book who'd be suitable for older kids like 14-17 and adults. The plot is the kid named Alex goes the this school and he is a honored student and has a difficult time going through it because he cheat his way in to the honored student list. In 8th grade and now he regrets it his best friends name is ceesaw. The plot is Alex has to get through high school and still stay in the honor class. There are a lot of characters in the book Alex the main characters. The plot is Alex getting through high school and stays in the honor group and keeps his friends.

This book was hard to read a little bit with all the slang words like wazzup and dig it this book is for good readers with good slang word knowledge. This book is 250 pages long and about a 12 font size so it would be good book for book readers. It kept me awake and not a good book for little kids and some teens. I would classify this book as young adult book because it was teen problems and "cool" words and slang words to. It could be a thriller because it is an existing book for teens and adults. Good Year around book. I liked this book a lot but a few things can be different like when they use a lot of the slang words and I think it is too much like they use it on every page .The likes is that the book is detailed in the book like when he describes his test grad he told me every one he got right and wrong .he talks about how he hates his teachers and how they can be vary pikey about the work they turn in. I think a lot of people would like this book like ages 10 – 17 and adults will enjoy this. My comments will bet that this book was nice length and well script. I like the story line in the book but it lacked a few parts like what town or city he lived in and what the name of the school is or where his house is. But the book is good in story and a lot of people would like this book. I think

the book can be shorter in my opinion because it was a pattern of single pattern of the same thing over and over again.

Ari says

IQ "I looked away, avoiding that type of soul-to-soul eye contact a person can make when they look to deeply into another person's eyes." Tee, pg. 264

I'd read this book years ago but never reviewed it so I decided to re-read it and while I'm not putting this up on the blog (yet) I did want to include some thoughts here. I preferred *The Hoopster* since I found this book to be preachy regarding the pros and cons of applying to college (and maybe that can't be helped when writing about the college admissions process), the difficulties students of less-privileged backgrounds have when it comes to finding actual college admissions guidance. Furthermore I had to suspend my disbelief at the ending of the book regarding college choices although depending on when the author wrote the book perhaps scoring was different? I'm not sure.

While the story could be unbearably heavy handed at times, there were a few amusing gems sprinkled throughout that managed to combine what we learn in school with what we learn in the real world, "Do people even know that one cannot 'hate on' another person without being in violation of about thirty-six rules of grammar?" (Mr. Wardin, 343). The author seems to have a clear and firm grasp of the world he's chosen to write about and he does not belittle or victimize his characters, nor make them simply angry. Theresa (or Tee) is struggling to find the happy-medium by balancing the lives of those she sees around with those she sees on TV, "The question is, what happens if you don't get there? Does it have to be a minimum-wage job at the supermarket collecting shopping carts", (pg. 305). This echoes the lack of options students are being taught that they have, there is a medium to the two extremes when it comes to careers. Anyway you will fly through this book and enjoy Theresa's observations of life and connect with her difficulties in high school that transcend race and class.

Jennifer Wardrip says

Reviewed by Sally Kruger, aka "Readingjunky" for TeensReadToo.com

Meet Theresa Anderson, known to her friends as Tee-Ay. Alan Lawrence Sitomer has captured Tee-Ay's struggle to survive high school and make it to college, and at the same time deal with some serious issues -- drive-by shootings, discrimination, and poverty. HIP-HOP HIGH SCHOOL presents big-city teens with big-city problems in a realistic, yet positive and inspiring story.

As a sophomore, Tee-Ay is finding it difficult to measure up to her older brother, Andre. (His story is told in Sitomer's HOOPSTER.) He is attending Stanford, and Tee-Ay thinks it would be great to be accepted at USC someday so she could tease Andre when USC kicks Stanford's butt in football. Attending a top-notch university seems like a pretty lofty goal, but Tee-Ay is willing to fight for it.

The story takes Tee-Ay and her fellow classmates through 10th, 11th, and 12th grade to graduation. Along the way she watches one friend, Cee-Saw, become pregnant and drop out, and another almost lose sight of her goals due to family obligations. One positive force in Tee-Ay's life is Devon, who helps her tap into her true potential as they study together for the dreaded SAT -- their ticket to a brighter future.

Sitomer uses hip-hop language to create vivid characters that grab the reader and carry them through right to the end. Big-city teens will be able to relate to the situations, and more sheltered teens will be transported to a world beyond their own.

Note: Although this is listed above as grades 9+, many of my 8th-grade students have read and enjoyed it. In fact, when several of them saw me reading it, they immediately commented about how much they liked it. So many other students are requesting it now, we will probably need to hold some sort of lottery to determine the next reader.

Patricia says

Patricia Turner
November 23, 2011
Hip-Hop-High School

The protagonist's of this book is very important through out the whole book. Staring Theresa , her family , and her best friend Cee saw, boy Devon. They are so important because a lot of things rely on them. Also they go through a journey because life Isn't what it seems. And things just happens when it happens .And your about to see the roller coaster ride they go through .

There isn't really a antagonist in this book but there is some nature.Like when Theresa arrive at school for the first day she arrived at school and it was trees and wind just blowing around. And there is some bad people like the people who mad Theresa's friend nose bleed during the M.L.K class. And also the people who shot Devon in the neck and put him in the hospital for a while. And a last sad one is when some people shot Theresa sister in the back and she died. And her brother wants revenge.

There are a couple of crazy things that happened in this book but I'm going to go with the crazy sad one. The crazy conflict is when Devon was riding his bike and some boys shot him in his neck. Yes they shot him in his neck and then that's things got even more interesting. When Theresa found out it was like she was dieing but slowly is was like pieces of her was just falling as she goes.And Theresa did everything in her power to help Devon and his mother with things. She tried to help his mother feel better but nothing couldn't really help her survive at the moment because that was her son and he was a important piece in her life. And with Devon Theresa wrote every collage that she knew he wanted to apply to. And shelet them know what was going on.

To me the theme was basically expressing how life Isn't always fair and you can't always expect things to be how you want them to be. And don't try to grow up fast because a lot of things will go wrong no matter how you put it. And it clearly tells you how you should pick your friends wisely because they aren't what you thought they was and people do change.The book also explains how things fall apart easy and your heart won't always stay together it will fall eventually. And the lesson is to be careful with your surroundings of a circle and just live your life and enjoy it while you're young.

Well their are many settings in this book. Like in the beginning of the book the setting is in school or in front of the school in the morning. And as the story goes by the setting gets more interesting. It goes from class to class and than home. When Theresa gets inside of her house she goes into the living room. And from the living to her room.And as the story goes on Theresa and Cee Saw ends up in a party. But that's not all the setting just goes by and by even faster than what it was going. And the setting where things go down is outside. Like any where outside. But the hospital and Devon's house is another important place. Things was going from the morning to the evening to the night. And it was going faster and faster than

before.

So the plot in the beginning of the story was when Theresa and Cee Saw lied and went to some party where people were drinking and stuff. And a lot of things happened like Cee Saw was drinking a lot of liquor and Theresa was in a room with a boy that wanted to do something with her but she didn't really want to so she left as fast as she could. And then she lost Cee Saw and then found her again. Then later the cops came and everybody had to wait for their parents to pick them up. And Cee saw threw up in the back of the car. And towards the middle of the story things got even more interesting to where Devon had got shot in the neck. And Theresa spent a lot of time on it. And his mother was broken hearted. And Theresa just couldn't live her life without helping him live his. So she just did everything in her power to help his mother survive and help him go to college. She wouldn't give up until she knew he was fine. Theresa's life was hell because her life wasn't going how she expected things to be. And towards the end things were even more stressful. Theresa left off to college and her little sister was into other things unlike Theresa. And her little brother was protective and was worried about revenge. So Theresa's little sister got shot in her back. And her brother wanted to kill whom killed her.

Well the climax for the beginning of the book is when Theresa just started to leave Cee saw alone and got a job. She wasn't into the things Cee saw was into. And for when Devon was shot he got way better than before and got into a college. But everything was so perfect for them. And last of all Teddyb Theresa's little brother just won't give up until he's got it.

In this book many things happen and not every problem was solved but most of the struggles were handled well. And some things were just unbelievable so there really isn't a resolution for this book until you read all of the books that's part of this book. But for some parts things are solved well. Like when Theresa and Cee saw had got caught sneaking to a party because the cops. Yes this book is different from others and powerful. That's why I like it.

The End !

Autumn Jeanine says

"Hip-Hop High School" is about a girl named Theresa Anderson who is a honor student and trying to get in USC (University of South California) the college of her dreams. But before she got invited to USC, her best friend Cee-Saw got pregnant by a football player named Rickey and kept the baby few months later. Devon and Theresa were study buddies to get a good score on their SAT. Devon got shot later trying to take another SAT test. Theresa helped him fill out his college application and filled her's out too. They both were accepted to USC and graduated out of Hip-Hop High School. I would rate this book a five because it

talks about how a person is struggling in high school trying to get into a good college.
