

Book Review:

Boy 87 by Ele Fountain

In my opinion, *Boy 87* is an admirable book that grabs you in from the first page and doesn't let go of you until you love it so much that you don't want to put it down. When I saw the cover for the first time, I felt like it was just going to be the same old story of a boy that goes on an adventure and then learns a lesson. But I was wrong. I was quick to realize that this book was unique, there has not a single book out of the hundreds that I have read that was like this. I could feel the same feelings as Shif and Bini. I felt as if I was inside their heads throughout the whole story. In the same way that I could feel the anguish that Shif must have been feeling when he had to leave his best friend behind knowing that he would never come back.

On the other hand, I see why some people would have thought that the book didn't have enough detail in it. This might have been the case for parts such as when Shif and Bini were in the container. I understand why the writer might have wanted to make it sound like the place was boring. But I do think that Fountain could have used some more descriptive language to make us feel like we were inside the container ourselves. This part of the story made me feel like I was inside Shif's head but I couldn't quite get an idea of what the actual experience of being inside the container was like.

Overall, I give this book a 9.5/10 and I think that this book was a great read and I recommend it to anyone who likes to read books that teach you a lesson that you could apply to your daily life. There are many reasons why I think that this book was the best book that I have ever read. My first reason is that it gives you clear images of places where you have never been to before. My second reason is that it made you go deep inside into Shif's head and let you look around to see what it would feel like to be a refugee who has lost everything and only has himself. My third reason is that this book has really made me think about the things that are going on around the world, like this story, that we are not aware of. My last and biggest reason is that this book was the thing that made me rethink about all of the things that I could do to help refugees around the world just like Shif and Bini.

I really hope that a sequel for this book comes out. If it does, I will make sure that I can get my hands on it as quick as possible!

– Oscar, Year 7, St Thomas the Apostle College