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Flawed: A Novel



Synopsis

In a breathtaking young adult debut, the bestselling author of *P.S. I Love You* depicts a society in which perfection is paramount and any misstep leads to punishment. If you break the rules, you will be punished. Celestine North lives a perfect life. She's a model daughter and sister and she's well-liked by her classmates and teachers. She's also a girl of logic. To Celestine, every problem has a solution. Every action is either right, or wrong. Celestine has always known about the Flawed, second-class citizens who are branded as punishment for their crimes. And she always thought they must deserve their punishment. But everything changes when Celestine witnesses the mistreatment of a Flawed man, and steps up to help him. But in helping him, she reveals that she is imperfect. And in Celestine's society, imperfection is punished. She is imprisoned. She is branded. She is flawed. This riveting novel is the first installment of the Flawed series. Don't miss the continuation of Celestine's story in the second book, *Perfect*. Praise for *Flawed* by Cecelia Ahern: "Pick up *Flawed* if you're a fan of awesome YA . . . or just if you appreciate really wellwritten fiction." • "The Guardian" "Ahern is a brilliant storyteller. . . . [Flawed] grabs [readers] from the opening pages and refuses to let go." • "The Irish Times" "This book is a masterpiece. . . . [Flawed] is a book that exposes the underbelly of a society which idolizes and demands perfection from its people." • "The Young Folks" "A compelling thriller that's very hard to put down." • "School Library Journal"

Book Information

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& Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Prejudice & Racism #79 in *Flawed* Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Values & Virtues

Age Range: 12 - 18 years

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Gr 7 Up *Flawed* — Logical perfectionist Celestine North lives in a future time and place where mistakes in moral or ethical judgment have serious consequences. Even simple mistakes can result in prison, shunning, and brutal branding with the letter F for Flawed. Traveling to school on a bus with her boyfriend and her sister, the 17-year-old protagonist risks her future when she helps a sick man who's marked with an F. Her life completely unravels when she defies Judge Crevan, a powerful leader of the Guild, who is also her boyfriend's father. As punishment, she is horribly branded with six F's from her head to her foot. Standing up against society's rigid rules not only leaves her disfigured but also eventually bars her from school and endangers her family. Her parents remain cautiously supportive, but her boyfriend disappears while she searches for the Flawed boy who was jailed beside her. Aysha Kala narrates with a convincing range of emotions and concise British diction. While the branding scene is disturbing, comparing Celestine's issues with current political discourse can provoke valuable discussion. This series starter leaves lots of compelling questions and introduces intriguing characters. VERDICT A worthwhile addition to young adult collections, this work will attract fans of dystopian literature as well as listeners who enjoyed Ahern's earlier adult titles. ["The brutal descriptions of the branding of those deemed Flawed are not easy to read, but it's a compelling thriller that's very hard to put down": SLJ 2/16 review of the Feiwel & Friends book.] *Flawed* — Barbara Wysocki, formerly with Cora J. Belden Library, Rocky Hill, CT --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

Flawed — "Compulsively readable . . . Readers will be waiting impatiently for the next book in the series." — School Library Journal *Flawed* — "Readers will be captivated and unable to put the book down . . . Consider this a must-have purchase for all young adult collections." — VOYA, starred review *Flawed* — "Pick up *Flawed* if you're a fan of awesome YA . . . or just if you appreciate really wellwritten fiction." — The Guardian *Flawed* — "Ahern is a brilliant storyteller. . . . [Flawed] grabs [readers] from the opening pages and refuses to let go." — The Irish Times *Flawed* — "This book is a masterpiece. . . . [Flawed] is a book that exposes the underbelly of a society which idolizes and demands perfection from its

people. The Young Folks

Totally not what I expected. Set in a dystopian society where following the rules and social norms is strictly enforced and perfection is the goal, Celestine North is the model citizen: beautiful, straight-A student who is logical and is the girlfriend of the son of the most powerful judge in the country. Normally the rule-follower, she is shaken and confused by the recent rulings of the court. The first is her neighbor who took her dying mother outside the country to be euthanized, following her dying mother's wish to end her pain and suffering. Her neighbor is branded and declared "Flawed" since she stole a life even though she did not break any laws inside the country. The second is a famous sports player who cheated on his wife but is found not guilty or not "Flawed" even though there is plenty of evidence that he did commit the crime. The fact that the judge in the case owns a significant part of the sports league that this famous player is a part of and being declared "Flawed" would prevent him from traveling internationally with the team and severely restrict his life has the public and Celestine questioning the fairness of this "Flawless" court. When Celestine speaks up and tries to save a Flawed man's life on a bus, she is arrested for aiding a Flawed and is put on public trial. Celestine's life will be forever changed no matter what the outcome but can she live with herself if she lies and tries to save herself from the fate of being "Flawed"? I could have read this book in 1 day if I could have kept my eyes open last night to finish it. It was deeply moving to me and showed me what bullying is like when taken to the extreme in a society, to the point where some people in society are seen as less-than-human and have their rights taken away and their lives severely restricted over a lapse of judgment or thought different from the accepted norm. I felt the anger and the frustration of the Flawed and those who questioned the morality of the society but were afraid to speak up in fear of being declared "Flawed." A great dystopian novel that I would highly recommend to all especially young adults and dystopian readers. I gave this a 4 out of 5 on Goodreads.

Flawed by Cecelia Ahern is a fast-paced dystopian novel. Celestine North lives in a world where one bad decision can alter your entire life. Her boyfriend's dad (Judge Crevan) works as a judge on the Guild, which is responsible for marking people who are "Flawed". If you are caught making an immoral or unethical decision, you are dragged before the court, and most of the time, found guilty and branded as flawed in one of five places depending on what you did (forehead for bad decisions, hand for stealing from society, chest for disloyalty to the Guild, foot for walking away from society, tongue for

lies). These Flawed people then have to live ostracized from society. They have different seats on the bus that they can only sit there (think segregated buses, same concept, perfect people can sit in flawed seats but flawed people can't sit in regular people seats), no alcohol, no sweets, and no one can help the flawed. Celestine always thought this was supposed to protect society from the unethical and evil people who don't break laws but put society at risk by doing things that are unethical. Until she sees a Flawed old man that reminds her of her grandfather, coughing on a bus while two perfect people sit in the only flawed seat. She asks them to move and they refuse, and she helps the old man sit down, afraid he will die. This leads to her being on trial for "helping" a flawed, being judged by her boyfriend's father. This is when she starts to question her world, and suspect that the Flawed aren't so flawed and the Guild may in fact be quite corrupt and Judge Crevan, may even be using it to achieve his personal vendettas. Will she be found guilty? What will this mean for her future? Read this book and find out what happens when compassion is seen as a bad decision. Be ready for a roller coaster of emotion. It's a quick read and beautifully written. Pulled me in right away!

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