

# HOLE IN MY LIFE

by Jack Gantos

Published in 2002

Rating (0 stars is the absolute worst, 10 stars is the BEST BOOK EVER)



Genre(s):

Contemporary

Action/adventure

Science Fiction

Fantasy

Romance

Horror

Mystery

Nonfiction

Historical fiction

Other:

Hole In My Life is an autobiography written by Jack Gantos. In the book, Jack gets involved with criminal activities and eventually turns his life around. When Jack is a Junior in high school, his parents decide to move from Lauderdale, Florida to San Juan, Puerto Rico, for his dad's work. Jack doesn't speak Spanish, so he can't learn in San Juan. Because of this, Jack stays in Florida. He starts working a job as an electrician for the motel he lives in. There, he lives with the Bacons, a family with an extra room. He gets kicked out for getting drunk very often, which causes trouble that the Bacons couldn't handle. After getting kicked out and sleeping in his car for a few days, Jack stays at the King's Court Motel. Two men, Hamilton and Rik, offer Jack to partake in illegal activities for money. Without hesitation, Jack accepts their offer.

I found this book very interesting because it's action-packed. Throughout the book, Jack is always involved with risky activities, like when he is in the ocean and grabs Hamilton's leg. Hamilton gets scared, pulls out his gun, and shoots a few bullets into the water until he calms down and realizes that it is just Jack. I also appreciate the amount of detail that the author put in early in the book that connects to the rest of the story. I didn't expect some of the small details to be significant to the rest of the book. Despite the exciting aspects of the book, there is also some inappropriate content, such as cursing and crime, and mention of sensitive topics, like self-harm. No self-harm actually took place. When it was mentioned, it was only Jack explaining how he thought about it a few times. He knew the consequences of it and made the correct decision. Even though the book may seem dark, it teaches the important life lesson that you can almost always turn your life around if you try. Although Jack commits crimes in the book, we watch him change his ways, when he goes to college and starts to work hard. I inferred that in the end, Jack realizes that you can make mistakes, but you shouldn't repeat them. If you can handle a couple of inappropriate scenes and some sensitive ideas, I recommend this book to you, as it teaches a life lesson and is interesting throughout.

By Aaditya K, 7th grade, enjoys reading mystery, fantasy, science fiction, horror, historical fiction, and action/adventure