

THE RED PALACE

by June Hur

Published in 2022

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



Genre(s):

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Contemporary | <input type="checkbox"/> Action/adventure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Science Fiction | <input type="checkbox"/> Fantasy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Romance | <input type="checkbox"/> Horror |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mystery | <input type="checkbox"/> Nonfiction |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historical fiction | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

The Red Palace is a first-person novel by June Hur. The book is based on a true story and takes place in a palace in Korea. The story is told by a young, seventeen-year-old Palace nurse, Hyeon, she wants to lay low, keep her job, and be successful. But Hyeon is suddenly in a bad spot when someone murders four women in one night and the prime suspect is her closest friend and mentor.

Hyeon takes a big risk by starting her own private investigation to prove her mentor's innocence. Hyeon is the daughter of a concubine and isn't cared for by her parents, her dad in particular. In fact, she says, "My family isn't the type to notice my absence," on page 177. Her father is very stern and doesn't seem to like her much. All she wants is her dad's approval. But involving herself in the investigation would ruin her chances of doing so, and could put her in serious danger.

I found this book very interesting. The book was very fast-paced. I was very hooked into the book and I wanted to know what happens next. I also found it very clever how the author sprinkled some romance into such a dreadful subject. She made the tone very eerie and added romantic moments between Hyeon and Eojin. Next, there was conflict, and breaking rules and courage took place. There were even near-death experiences. Sometimes, they were very close to finding out the truth but quite couldn't get there. These aspects all together made this book a page-turner. I would definitely recommend this book to everyone, even if some people aren't interested in a murder-heavy book, the author adds in a bit of everything, giving a wide variety, and making it open for everyone to enjoy.

By Aaditya K, 8th grade, enjoys reading action/adventure, science fiction, fantasy, historical fiction, and mystery