

WARRIORS DON'T CRY

by Melba Pattillo Beals

Published 1994

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



Genre(s):

☐

Contemporary/Realistic

☐

Action/adventure

☐

Science Fiction

☐

Fantasy

☐

Romance

☐

Horror

☐

Mystery

☒

Nonfiction

☐

Historical fiction

☐

Other:

Warriors Don't Cry is a story that takes place in 1957 and follows Melba, a high schooler tasked with attending Central High School in Arkansas. There is a major problem, however: this is a time period where African Americans fight to have their kids attend schools that are seen as "whites only." This is known as integration. Melba, being an African American, must endure harsh conditions and rude treatment from the Central High kids alongside her eight other African American friends. Will Melba successfully get past the school year unscathed, or will she be kicked out before doing so?

This book exceeded my expectations. As someone who generally does not like historical events, let alone reading about them, I found myself enjoying this book a lot. The book is written in first person, which allowed me to accurately picture what was going on in Melba's mind as she was integrating into Central High. Violence, suspense, and even betrayal always kept me on edge for what would happen to the integrating kids, but there were also times of peace, times where Melba was able to interact with friends, her crush, but most importantly: just be a normal kid. This book would be a perfect read for anyone who enjoys learning about historical events regarding segregation, or anyone who enjoys themes of suspense.

By Caiden G, 11th grade, enjoys reading Action/Adventure