



TEEN SERVICES COMMUNITY SERVICE TEEN BOOK REVIEW

Backfire By Vanessa Acton Reviewed by Analis Agreda

Name: Analis Agreda

Grade: 7

Book Title: Backfire

Author: Vanessa Acton

Number of Pages: 101

Rating (on a scale of 1-5): 4/5

Character List:

- **Elijah:** Elijah is a boy who is forced to live with his uncle after his mom leaves the family and his dad goes to prison. He is forced to miss a camping trip with his friends to do chores around the house.
- **Brenna:** Brenna is a girl with an amazing understanding of nature. She is forced to make some tough decisions to save her and her friends from a wildfire.
- **Nicole:** Nicole is a girl who is on a camping trip with her friends even though she has a horrible understanding of nature. She must go through a deadly disaster in order to save herself and her friends.
- **Keegan:** Keegan is a boy that loves to question every little thing. He is on a camping trip with no outdoor experience and must face a life or death situation with his friends.
- **Marco:** Marco is Elijah's uncle and legal guardian. He must defend the house he built from a deadly wildfire while protecting his nephew.

Review:

Meet Elijah: he's a good kid living with his uncle Marco. After getting fired, his uncle grounds him while his friends go camping. As he is doing chores to "build character," as his uncle would say, word has gotten out that there's a wildfire heading to his neighborhood of Hayden. While worrying about the safety of his friends, he must protect his uncle, dog, and his elderly neighbor Mrs. Lucas. While Elijah is at home, his friends Brenna, Nicole, and Keegan are in the middle of a wildfire. A girl who grew up loving the wilderness must guide two inexperienced campers to safety. They must escape the dry terrain and the scorching heat before they are burnt to a crisp. Left with no clue of what their home town has become, both groups are possibly homeless, injured, and thinking about each other like crazy.

Backfire is the action-packed young adult book of 2017. This is a story about patience, friendship, the difficulty of life, and why you should never go camping during wildfire season. Author Vanessa Acton takes readers through a fire in the eyes of two different characters. This book is mostly targeted to children ages 10-16, although both older and younger readers can enjoy it too. With so many elements, this book can appeal to a variety of people. It's full of action, adventure, suspense, and mystery. If you like action, mystery, or any other genre, this is a perfect book to read because it has a combination of genres to appeal to everyone. Get ready for an action packed rollercoaster of emotion when you read *Backfire* by Vanessa Acton.