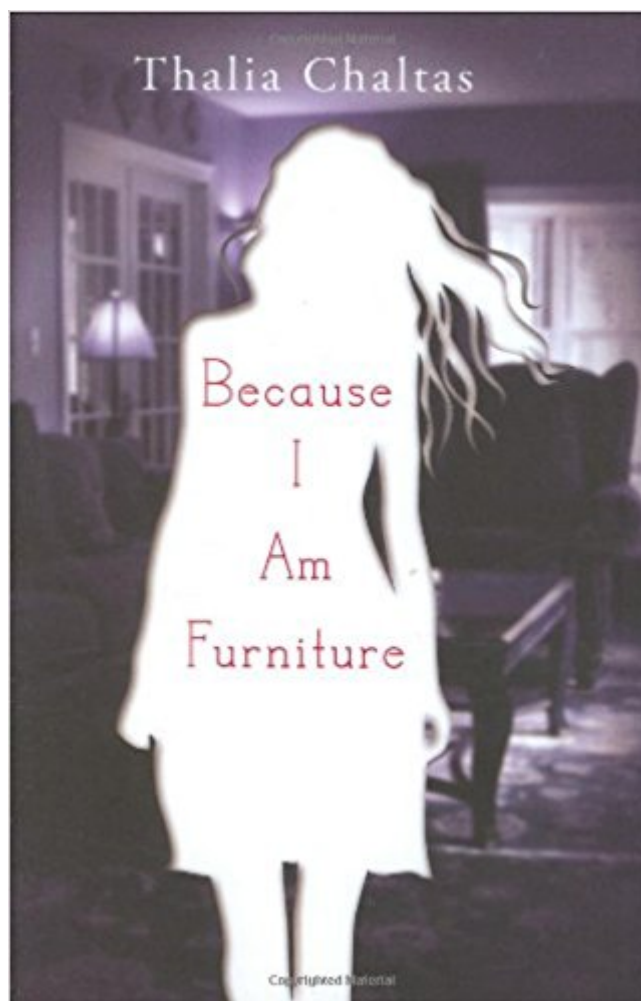


The book was found

Because I Am Furniture



Synopsis

Read Thalia Chaltas's posts on the Penguin Blog. Anke's father is abusive. But not to her. He attacks her brother and sister, but she's just an invisible witness in a house of horrors, on the brink of disappearing altogether. Until she makes the volleyball team at school. At first just being exhausted after practice feels good, but as Anke becomes part of the team, her confidence builds. When she learns to yell "Mine!" to call a ball, she finds a voice she didn't know existed. For the first time, Anke is seen and heard. Soon, she's imagining a day that her voice will be loud enough to rescue everyone at home—including herself.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 990L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 368 pages

Publisher: Viking Juvenile; 1st Edition edition (April 16, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0670062987

ISBN-13: 978-0670062980

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 1.3 x 7.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.1 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 33 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #702,149 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #99 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Dysfunctional Relationships #145 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Sexual Abuse #211 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Abuse

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

"Incendiary, devastating, yet - in total - offering empowerment and hope, Chaltas's poems leave an indelible mark." - Publishers Weekly, starred review "A harder read than it seems, but worth it." - Kirkus Reviews --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

As a teenager Thalia Chaltas wanted to do everything, and she envied people who knew without question what their life goal was. Thalia did preliminary training to be a kinesiologist, a helicopter pilot, and a fire fighter, and has at times been a bus driver, a ropes course instructor, and a contralto

in an a capella group. Along the way she has played lots of volleyball, written poetry, and collected children's books. And eventually, that anvil fell from the sky and she realized writing was what all this previous intensive training was for. She has kept every poem she has ever written except one. Because she can't find it. Thalia lives in California with her daughter. Because I Am Furniture is her first novel.

I read this book at the library a couple years ago. I loved it very much and was super excited to find it for such a good price on .I love how it's written like a poem. The topic of this story is a tough one but wonderfully executed.

There are some novels that attempt to tell their story in verse and then there are novels such as this, that actually do it and do it well. Because I am Furniture is a story about a girl who literally hugs the walls to make it through each day, walking past what is in front of her face: an abusive father who takes out his frustrations on her two siblings but not her. Then Anke starts to play volleyball where she finds she is actually good at something. She also learns that she has an opinion and a voice, but she struggles with what this means not just to her but her family as well. Should she speak up? There are a few scenes in this novel that may make you cringe - it is not that they are graphic, they are the opposite; but this is where Thalia Chaltas has proven she knows how to write in verse, using few, simple, and particular words that make the imagery in your head anything but simple. While I am a huge fan of character development, in Because I am Furniture I learned that sometimes it's not about that. Beyond Anke, the characters are not developed really at all - in fact they are some of the flattest characters I have read. However, I like to think that this was done on purpose. The novel is not about the other characters, their struggles and pains (granted which are great), or even Anke's interactions with them. This novel is about Anke finding her voice and feeling those feelings that make us human, questioning the status quo of her life and taking chances (both internally and externally). I have always found verse novels to be quick reads and Because I am Furniture is just that. While being written in verse helps the time it will take you to read this book it is also the real 'story' within this novel that makes this a quick read. Thalia Chaltas has offered a wonderful story about abuse, honesty (more so with yourself), strength and so much more. You don't want to miss this novel.

A fantastic read! My daughter picked up this book quite randomly, and both of us were hooked on the first page we read. She liked the book so much she asked for her own copy. I had never read a

book in this format before, but the prose worked beautifully. I can't imagine the book would be nearly as touching and realistic without this format.

i like

I love this book though mine came a little bent

Only 1penny. No torn pages. Nothing on the pages(besides words, obviously). Only one tiny tear on cover. It's pretty much in perfect condition. Love it

I could have sworn i already reviewed this book....but the service was rly quick and the product was in GREAT condition, as promised. Thanks! Definatly reccomend this seller!

I am halfway through the book, so far it is a decent read. However, for a book about abuse there isnt any emotion. Additionally, the author writes in short poems. Except it is difficult to truly understand some of what is going on. A couple of pages Im not even sure what she was trying to say. And for the majority of the book there is either too much detail (explaining colors, looks) or not enough (unsure of what actions are actually happening).

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