



Invitation to the Game

By Monica Hughes

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Invitation to the Game By Monica Hughes Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

What begins as a chilling glimpse into the not-too-distant future evolves into an exultant, life-affirming balm for mankind. Ten graduates of the class of 2154 are assigned (condemned, actually) by the government to a routine of unemployment and ostracism in this overcrowded future of robotized services and thought police. The 10 stumble upon a secretive and elite contest that promises to raise their status should they win. But by the time they discover that "The Game" is really a government plot to colonize other planets with the youth of their world, it's too late. This bold and incisive parable for the future will by turns terrify and enchant both science fiction enthusiasts and readers concerned about the earth's fate. A moving epilogue chronicles the way that the group pools its diverse skills to create a better civilization in a pristine land. Hughes engenders an aura of optimism and hope that will both comfort and inspire. Ages 12-up.

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From School Library Journal

Grade 6-9-- It is the year 2154. Unemployment is rife, many workers having been replaced by robots, and teenagers, as they graduate from school, are either assigned jobs or an unemployed status. Lisse and seven of her classmates are relegated to a DA (Designated Area) for unemployment together. As they begin to explore the area, they hear about something called The Game, and eventually receive an invitation to participate. By computer simulation, they experience life in an unfamiliar, wild setting. After several sessions, the game intensifies. Several days into a particularly difficult situation, they realize it is no longer a game, but reality, and when, gazing at the night sky, they see no familiar constellations, they know they are no longer on Earth. The future Hughes creates is a logical extension of the disasters of the present day. The characters are likable individuals, each with traits or skills that complement the others. As they grow in ability to work cooperatively, readers will easily accept their selection to populate a new planet. Life there is primitive, but they succeed in making not only useful, but also beautiful necessities of daily life; there are many satisfactions for these latter-day Robinson Crusoes. This is both a first-rate adventure/survival story and a cautionary tale. --Li Stark, North Castle Public Library, Armonk, NY

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From Kirkus Reviews

The choice for high-school graduates in 2154: to live on the dole or become colonists. Lisse and her friends are bright, caring young people, but there are no jobs. Thrown together by a computer, they forge a fortress from an abandoned warehouse and learn to live with one another, avoiding the streets' drugs and hedonism. Suddenly, there comes an invitation to the Game: shared computer-induced experiences in a wild, virgin wilderness. Always, when injury threatens, the computer pulls them back--until the last time, when they discover that they have actually emigrated to another part of the galaxy. Using their individual and group skills, they start to conquer the new planet, ultimately meeting and intermarrying with other groups of colonists. Hughes, a facile, experienced writer, knows how to keep a story moving. She conveys a real sense of social threat; the reader cares about the group's small victories over the mean streets. Unfortunately, she telegraphs her punches: the new planet may astonish the characters, but it won't surprise the reader. The details of environment and skills to cope with it are adroitly done; but the hard technology--e.g., computer-induced reality and painless, undetected transport across light-years-- are less convincing, while the tidy conclusion has a perfunctory feel. A mixed effort, but entertaining. (Fiction. 12+) -- *Copyright ©1991, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jesse Valles:

Here thing why that Invitation to the Game are different and reputable to be yours. First of all looking at a book is good but it depends in the content from it which is the content is as delicious as food or not. Invitation to the Game giving you information deeper and in different ways, you can find any publication out there but there is no reserve that similar with Invitation to the Game. It gives you thrill reading through journey, its open up your own eyes about the thing this happened in the world which is maybe can be happened around you. It is easy to bring everywhere like in area, café, or even in your means home by train. In case you are having difficulties in bringing the published book maybe the form of Invitation to the Game in e-book can be your alternative.

Karon Hall:

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John Ma:

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