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Push And Shove: The Ghost Bird Series: #6 (The Academy Ghost Bird Series)



Synopsis

Sang Sorenson struggles with her growing feelings when the Academy boys take her in and draw her closer into their world. They work together to uncover the true secrets happening at Ashley Waters High School, where Principal Hendricks will stop at nothing to take them all down. Adding to their complications, Nathan's father shows up, and he's just as ruthless and violent as ever, beating up on Nathan. Sang offers Nathan refuge in her home, but Marie is fed up with the boys. She wants them out--all of them--and wants them to take Sang with them. Where will Sang go? What will happen to Nathan? And what about Mr. Hendrick's spies, watching all of them? Kota, Victor, Silas, Nathan, Gabriel, Luke and North will have to focus to get out of this mess, but with Sang assisting them, they're struggling to keep control. They all promised not to make a move on Sang unless she initiates, but the tension is driving them all to distraction. With the help of Dr. Green and Mr. Blackbourne, they will have to stay strong and engaged. But A first kiss is imminent, and will cost them all more than they could ever have imagined.

The Academy, Endlessly Steadfast

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Customer Reviews

I have to admit, I do enjoy this series, but sometimes it gets on my nerves. It's almost like one step forward and two steps back with the characters. Just as we think something great is going to happen, it gets ruined. In Push and Shove, there is a new drug that is circling Ashley West school and the students - JH14. It is causing outbursts of rage and paranoia and hallucinations, but untraceable. Adding to this mess is that the Principal Hendricks is still following the boys and seems to have recruited a few of the school teachers and students as spies. In Push and Shove, we catch more of a glimpse of Wil, and I do wonder what his part in the book is and whether in the end he will be revealed with a more major character. Sang finally gets a kiss, and I have to admit I didn't see this person being the first, to have a proper kiss, but then again it totally makes sense. I have to admit I love the last couple of books though as they give readers more pages of Sean Green (Dr. Green) and Owen (Mr. Blackbourne). We do get to see that Sang is growing in herself as a person especially in the sexual interests, but what annoyed me about this book is that the boys can't make up their mind about loving her. It's like come on boys, grow some balls and tell Sang you love her or at least kiss her properly and then explain the situation as here she is feeling all rejected, and it would have been fixed if they all bloody well communicated with each other properly instead of pussy-footing around the issues of "I'm in love with Sang". Back to a positive, the other thing I enjoyed but not too much as I ached for Nathan was that we got to learn more about his horrible home life. After finishing, Push and Shove I am looking forward to reading the rest of the series as it seems that the characters are finally starting to grow up a bit and step up to the plate.

So, I am the giant nerd who reread the entire series this weekend in preparation for the release of this book. I love the earlier books. They are just full of fun and make me smile like a moron when I read them. I was super psyched to read this one. But it was kind of lacking in comparison to the previous books. This is not to say that this isn't a good book. It is, but it lacks the brilliance that I know the author is capable of because of the previous books. For example it has a something of a problem with continuity. In the previous books, we have seen Sang grow and change in certain ways and in this book it is as if she has regressed rather seriously, especially at the beginning...the whole tone of the narration is just off. And frankly, Sang isn't as convincing in this book, she just comes across as somewhat weak and stupid, which has never been the case before. I think this book was kind of busy as well. The earlier ghost bird books just dwell richly on moments of

friendship and while this book had some of that, it just seemed as if they were trying to stuff a little of everything into the book instead of focusing on a few of the relationships and letting us see them grow in depth. What I have loved the most about this series are the characters and their relationships, and it seemed like some of the depth that I have come to expect was lost in a flurry of more shallow interactions between the characters...perhaps in the pursuit of furthering the romantic aspects of those relationships too quickly. Also, our long awaited kiss was a little disturbing, even while being super sweet and cute...Anyways, I still really enjoyed the book and if you have been reading the series, you absolutely must read it.

Push and Shove, #6 was darker than the others in this series so far. So much drama happens to Sang that it's no wonder she forgets to eat and is exhausted. The drugging and sexual assault on her was disturbing and then another later attack; poor girl needs a therapist on speed dial. I'm not a fan of relocating assailants instead of prosecuting them either. So many people in Sang's life should be in jail. I did feel at times the boys let her down in this book. Ashley Waters is still a mess and it doesn't seem like it will be fixed anytime soon. Bomb threats, a shady principal, a masked man with unknown intentions. It seems like the books are starting to get a bit drawn out. Each now has a bit of focus on a particular guy, but with each step forward, we take another back.

The main character, Sang, is really starting to get on my nerves. I understand that she was abused and is emotionally stunted because of it, but she's supposed to be this avid reader, so her lack of knowledge regarding human interaction and reading social cues is too far fetched. She isn't growing and developing fast enough for me. And the way she repeats herself, "What do we do?" Ugh! Don't you have anything else to contribute or say? I understand the premise is based off of anime and that she's supposed to be submissive, but can't you find other ways to say it, not just repeat the same four lines through every book? The story's pacing is way off, too. I don't need to know every minute detail of character's day. The writing feels like a first draft every time, as if the author doesn't try to develop motifs and themes, but just bangs it out and gives it to the world to read. It's sad because I'm really intrigued with the concept and think that with more thoughtful consideration from the author (more time writing and developing) the series could be great. I love the guys. Which ever one is the focal point of the scene is the one I'm in love with the most in that particular moment. I really hope by the next book, Sang comes out of her shell more and her emotional depth takes a dive into deep waters. Also, I hope the pacing picks up and we find out exactly what the Academy is. The author is dragging it out. In no way does this story warrant twenty books to tell it.

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