

Home by Amanda Berriman.

3 stars

Little children have big ears.

Jesika is four and a half and lives with her mummy and brother, Toby. They live in a slum flat with mould and broken windows. Jesika's mum and brother are taken to hospital and she is put into foster care.

Jesika's mum meets an old friend and her daughter and Jesika desperately wants to be Paige's friend, but Paige is a frightened child who cannot express or tell anyone anything about the horrible games her uncle makes her play.

A story of modern-day poverty told through the words of a four-and-a-half-year-old.

I read this book quite quickly and it was well written. The story is a sad one and all too real. However, it is told by Jesika in her child-like language which, although it gives the idea of how a child thinks, 300 odd pages of child-speak irritated the hell out of me and I found myself correcting her out loud!!! Therefore, I read the book so quickly, just to get through the agony.

Saying that, I also found it hard to empathise with the mum as she was very proud and found it hard to accept the help she was in no position to refuse which could have had disastrous consequences.

All in all, I did not enjoy this book very much, but that could just be my view on things, so give it a read and make up your own mind.

Shesat

Breakaway Reviewers received a copy of the book to review.