

Peach by Emma Glass

4 stars

Totally original – totally different!

This is the first book by this author and she has produced something extraordinary. Her writing is confident and bridges any gap between prose and poetry, with emotion portrayed often through alliteration and repetition of key phrases.

We meet Peach as she struggles to get home in the dark after a deeply traumatic experience. She is finding it difficult to walk, due to pain between her legs and is nauseated by the taste and feel of raw sausage meat. On getting home she rushes to assess and deal with the damage in what can only be an admirable manner after her ordeal.

It doesn't occur to her to talk with her parents who are totally engrossed in their own sex life, and in Peach's new baby brother, who she describes as being the perfect, round, happy baby, from whom icing sugar sprinkles whenever he moves!

The remainder of the book paints a graphic picture of the affect the trauma has had on Peach and how this is expressed by her in changes to her body shape, and in her perception of the ordinary things of life. Her boyfriend, 'Green', is sensitive to her but she doesn't confide in him.

There are mythical and superstitious elements to Peach's damaged psyche, which you will need to experience yourself. I must admit that some of it escaped me, but this thin volume has such power and leaves the reader in no doubt of Peach's pain and the ultimate consequences.

It is quite unlike anything I have read before, and whilst I cannot claim to have fully understood it, I am pleased to have read it and fully intend to re-read it when time permits.

This is a new author with a totally original voice; she is worth following.

*Pashtpaws*

Breakaway Reviewers received a copy of the book to review.