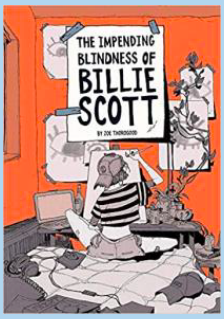
Discussion Guide



The Impending Blindness of Billie Scott
Zoe Thorogood

Avery Hill Publishing
2021
168 pages
ISBN: 978-1910395646

Eyes and Vision
Disability Health

Summary

The Impending Blindness of Billie Scott is a graphic novel about an artist who gets her big break only to realize she may soon never be able to work again. After a blow to the head, she gets diagnosed with a condition that will imminently cause her to lose her sight. This sends her on a creative trip where she hopes to make the most of the time she has left before her vision deteriorates. The book explores themes of human connection, identity, what it means to be an artist, and one person's attempt to deal with a life-changing diagnosis. This discussion guide provides a broad overview for discussion of Billie and her journey.

Questions

1. What did you think about the visual depiction of Billie's vision problem? What did the graphic novel visuals add to the story that a book without illustrations wouldn't have been able to do?
2. How did the author tackle depicting a life-changing moment and its effects on the main character?
3. What do you think the author was trying to say about the role of art in life?
4. How does the author show more about Billie's character as the story unfolds? How does the character develop?
5. Why do you think Billie waited days before seeking help after she noticed the problems with her vision?
6. Why do you think Billie decides to socialize with the other people in her building after her vision problem is diagnosed?
7. What did you think about the pages where the reader gets to see inside Billie's notebook/sketchbook? Why do you think the author included them?
8. What do you think the book has to say about empathy?
9. Was there anything in the book that surprised you? Why?
10. Was there anything in the book that resonated with you personally, or reminded you of your own experiences? Were there any moments that you found particularly affecting, and why?

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