I'm not a robot

These words are spoken by Flick's great-meema. As we later learn, the Matilda is on no course set by its founders. A complete rerouting of her course 25 years ago has gone unnoticed by those in power, who are interested only in the nihilistic perpetuation of their own power for power's sake. Skip to content Reddit and its partners use cookies and similar technologies to provide you with a better experience. By accepting all cookies, you agree to our use of cookies to deliver and maintain our services and site, improve the quality of Reddit, personalize Reddit content and advertising, and measure the effectiveness of advertising. By rejecting non-essential cookies, Reddit may still use certain cookies to ensure the proper functionality of our platform. For more information, please see our Cookie Notice and our Privacy Policy. Quotes tagged as "an-unkindness-of-ghosts" Showing 1-1 of 1 "Dear Sirs," Flick began before loudly inhaling, "On account of there being no heat down here in account of the being nô electricity on account of the brand-new energy rations so thoughtfully and nobly and honorably imposed on the steerage decks by Sovereign Nicolaeus on account of the blackouts - Aster fell prey to a brief fit of hypothermia-induced delirium de spoke against you in her maddery. She's healed up now so you don't have to worry about it happening again." — Rivers Solomon Table of Contents What is An Unkindness of Ghosts about? This book tells the story of Aster, a young woman living in the low-deck slums of the HSS Matilda, a spacecraft. Her world resembles the antebellum South, where dark-skinned people are enslaved by a brutal ruling class. Aster's journey reveals dark secrets linking her mother's suicide to the death of the ship's sovereign. Determined to find truth and freedom, Aster challenges her oppressive reality. Book Details Title: An Unkindness of Ghosts Author: Rivers Solomon Page Count: 351 Published: September 18, 2017 Rating: 3.96 (based on 19,971 ratings) Price: Kindle $11.93 Synopsis of An Unkindness of GhostsIntroduction to Aster's World Aster lives in the low-deck slums of the HSS Matilda, a spaceship echoing the antebellum South. She is odd-mannered, often obsessed, and feels deeply connected to her mother, who died by suicide when Aster was young. Her mother's suicide left her with psychical powers, including the ability to hear the thoughts of civil status the HSS Matilda's sharecroppers like Aster, who they consider to be less than human. When the autopsy of Matilda's sovereign reveals a disturbing connection to her mother's encrypted notes, leading to the heart of the ship's secrets. Aster's investigation plunges her further into a web of pain and violence. As she retraces her mother's footsteps, Aster confronts a brutal overseer. This encounter awakens an ember of resistance within her. The vessel of wretchedness around her fuels her desire to fight back, even igniting a potential civil war among the lower-deckers. Grasping at the possibility of change brings both hope and peril. Struggles of Identity and Intersectionality Throughout her struggle, Aster grapples with her queer, intersex, and neurodivergent identity. Her experiences illuminate the nuanced intersection of race, gender, and sexual identity. Relationships aboard the Matilda showcase contrasting dynamics: a community forged in resilience amid oppression. Aster's friendship with Giselle highlights differing coping mechanisms against trauma. While Aster meets violence with logic, Giselle's turbulent emotions threaten their bond. Their relationship unveils the deeper implications of mental illness and individual responses to collective trauma. Aster also forms a complex bond with Theo, the ship's Surgeon. Their connection adds layers to Aster's narrative while exploring themes of privilege and identity. Through their exchanges, both characters confront societal dictates that bind them, wrestling with labels and expectations placed upon them. Confronting Oppression A significant aspect of the narrative revolves around Aster's journey toward understanding her place within the oppressive hierarchy of civil status aboard the Matilda. Her interactions with various characters highlight the stark contrasts between the privileged upper decks and the oppressed lower decks. Through these interactions, Aster begins to grasp the depth of civil status the lower-deckers. Together, they realize their own power, but Aster's revelations about her mother's death complicate their plans for rebellion. The tension between personal vengeance and the broader fight for freedom adds layers to the narrative, prompting Aster to reflect on her motivations and the consequences of her actions. Truly look like? Aster finds herself ensnared in moral ambiguities, questioning her means to an end. Will her fight against oppression result in a lasting change? Or will the cycle of violence continue, leaving her trapped in another form of shackles? Thematic Depth and Reflection An Unkindness of Ghosts masterfully tackles the horrors of systemic oppression through Aster's lens. Rivers Solomon's portrayal reflects real-world issues of race, identity, and trauma, casting a long shadow on humanity's persistent inequality. The ship's hierarchical structure mirrors societal adversities, illustrating struggles faced by marginalized communities. This novel's richness lies in its character development and theme exploration. Aster's unique perspective offers insightful commentary on the intersection of gender identity, mental illness, and race. Readers are compelled to confront the disheartening truths that linger around us, encapsulated within Aster's fight for freedom. A powerful blend of depth and emotion, An Unkindness of Ghosts invites readers to not only listen but engage in the narratives often left unheard. As Aster's story unfolds, it challenges us to reflect on societal norms and the lengths one would go to seek liberation. From here you can jump to the Spoilers section right away. Below you can search for another book summary Alternative Books Cover How do you find this alternate cover we've created? Quotes "I am a boy and a girl and a witch all wrapped into one very strange, flimsy, indecisive body. Do you think my body couldn't decide what it wanted to be?" — Rivers Solomon,An Unkindness of Ghosts "Pretty was a strange thing to concern oneself over. Pretty was subjective and illusory. — Rivers Solomon,An Unkindness of Ghosts "Pretty was a strange thing to concern oneself over. Pretty was subjective and illusory. Pretty was a luxury. Pretty was for those who could afford it. Pretty was for those who could afford to be pretty." "I think it doesn't matter because we get to decide what our bodies are or not," he answered. Aster sat up, and Theo helped her prop pillows beneath her head. "Is that so? Then I am magic. I say it, therefore it is true," she said."—Rivers Solomon,An Unkindness of Ghosts You want to give An Unkindness of Ghosts a try? Here you go! Characters Aster: The protagonist, Aster is fiercely intelligent, queer, and neurodivergent. She seeks justice and freedom. Theo: Aster's ally, who exists in the upper decks. He represents a complex blend of privilege and empathy. Giselle: Aster's best friend, who struggles with her own sanity in the oppressive environment. The Lieutenant: A brutal overseer who embodies the cruelty of the upper class. Surgeon: A skilled doctor who aids Aster, revealing complexities in his motives. Highlights Complex Characters: Aster, Theo, and Giselle are richly developed with unique perspectives. World-Building: The ship conditions serve as a powerful metaphor for societal oppression. Themes of Identity: Intersectionality of race, gender, and identity plays a central role. Emotional Depth: The book explores trauma and resilience amidst systemic violence. Spoilers Spoiler Alert! If you want to read the book, don't click "Show more" and spoil your experience. Here is a link for you to get the book. Aster's Revelation: Aster discovers that her mother's death is linked to the sovereign's death. Civil War: Aster's quest ignites the beginnings of a civil uprising aboard the ship. Brutality of the Past: Aster's struggles reveal the deep-rooted trauma of the ship's inhabitants. Ambiguous Ending: The conclusion leaves Aster's fate uncertain, emphasizing the struggle for freedom. Let us know what you think about this book and the summary in the comment section at the end of the page. FAQs about An Unkindness of Ghosts (or fiction with similar themes) Is An Unkindness of Ghosts suitable for a book club? Is An Unkindness of Ghosts a good book? Is An Unkindness of Ghosts worth your time? Is An Unkindness of Ghosts worth your money