



## Bright's Light

*Susan Juby*

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## **Bright's Light** Susan Juby

Like all the girls at the House of Gear, Bright has a higher purpose: to be, like, awesome. That means Bright's engineered body must always look perfect. It means she must be appealing at all times. The minders are watching, after all. The minders see everything.

One of them, Grassly, is on a mission that will lead Bright toward a new future while exposing her to incredible danger. If the other minders catch a whiff of curiosity, rebelliousness or free will, they may decide it's time to reboot the entire population - just as Bright is discovering a whole new purpose within herself.

Susan Juby brings her trademark humour to a dark, dystopian world in this thrilling new addition to the genre.

## **Bright's Light** Details

Date : Published September 4th 2012 by Harper Collins Canada

ISBN : 9781554683376

Author : Susan Juby

Format : Hardcover 288 pages

Genre : Young Adult, Science Fiction, Fiction, Dystopia, Young Adult Science Fiction, Cultural, Canada

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## From Reader Review Bright's Light for online ebook

### Debbie says

Yes, this book is confusing, but it also contains hilarious satirical comment on consumer society. It's not the laugh-out-loud funny of Juby's Alice books, it's more a snicker-to-yourself kind of funny.

Juby might have written a more readable book if she had realized that 'less can be more'. Less complexity, more flow in the narrative.

Still, stick with it. It's a good satire.

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### Sidrah says

I thought the book was going to be good but I just left it and I wasn't even through it half way...I tried to keep on reading it but it just kept going on and on and nothing seemed to happen. I also skipped near to the end and it was just terrible. Disappointed....

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### Suzanne says

I've been meaning to read Susan Juby's "Alice, I Think" series for years, so when I was asked to review her latest YA novel, I jumped at the chance. Although this is her 6th YA novel, it's Juby's first foray into the dystopian/sci-fi genre, and while her quirky humour and impeccable wit definitely helped carry this novel, I'm not sure this genre is the best fit for her. The main plot is more than a little bit wonky, and her two main female characters were incredibly unrelatable. I did find the main male character, Grassly, super endearing though - would've enjoyed reading more about him and less about Bright and Fon.

Full review to come in Quill & Quire.

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### Morgan says

It at least kept me reading until the end, but I can't say that it was the best book I've ever read. Maybe I'm a little too old to enjoy it properly. Bright is a party favour for House of Gears in a dystopian earth set far in the future. Her only purpose is to party with clients, look great, and have fun. Grassly is a super advanced human from beyond the earth come back to enlighten "the ancestors", i.e. Bright and her people. Both were pretty shallow and self involved and it made it really hard to care about any of them.

Things I liked: you can see Bright's progression over the course of the story from self involved to caring about other people. At least, about Fon, her dressing friend and competition. The world-building was somewhat interesting.

Things I didn't like: the plot took some shortcuts for convenience, like when Grassly got back to his ship halfway through and not only discovered an accelerated schedule, but also the imminent failure of the seal. The light just conveniently working near the end was also strange. The convenient death of all the deciders.

It also missed the mark for some deeper introspection, like about how Grassly's 51's and Mother were quite similar to the whole Center thing in the earth. I was expecting something a little deeper overall. Also, all of these clones are going to die in a very few short years. Possibly not enough time to have babies and make the next generation.

Anyway, I finished it. It entertained me for a while. Onto the next book.

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### **Breanne says**

SO CONFUSING!!! I have never been so confused. It was an interesting book, but I don't think I understand it.. I liked it, but the confusing-ness of it kinda ruined it a lil for me. But I'd be willing to try out other books by her =))

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### **Erica says**

I still don't know what I read. This was such a crappy book.

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### **Marjorie says**

Susan Juby has an amazing imagination. This is a story about us, the human race, although we are altered. There is Grassly who trying to save us. Susan uses made up words and phrases that adds to the changed world concept. There are many laughs and chuckles as the reader sees humankind through a strangers eyes. It is an easy read that flies along with the speed of change.

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### **Rachel Seigel says**

I'm sorry to say that this author, as talented as she is, really doesn't do dystopia well. The story just didn't make any sense, and just wasn't well-written. Some people obviously will enjoy it, but it was not for me.

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### **BookCupid says**

Legally Blonde meets Sci-Fi in Susan Juby's Bright's Light. Even the title is catchy, although Bright does steal her best friend's light and claim it as hers because it's pretty.

Aside from Fon's quirky lines, the story is far from simple. Like what exactly is Bright: an engineered body, a robot who can loose weight,a riptide dancer...

And then there's Grassly (a man or bot?) who plans to save the town but forgets the ship timer is set to depart

in 48 hours, right before the apocalypse.

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### **Brooklynne says**

What the f\*ck did I just read? Like honestly! It was an okay read, a little hard to follow at the beginning, but in the end readable. I've read Susan Jubys Alice I Think series and I loved them, but this, its like, where did this come from? Its like every single author out there is jumping on the Dystopian band wagon. Its like she was high on something when she wrote this book and the people who published it were high also. like how else could you come up with this stuff?

So I gave it three stars cause it wasn't completely horrible yet it wasn't her best work.

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### **Vicki Scott says**

I honestly could not get into this book. I really really tried. There were two narratives, which I usually find to be engaging, but there was hardly any background to this whatsoever. They just threw you in the middle of this universe expecting to know what was going on and just go with it. I just couldn't do it.

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### **Mara says**

My first intro to Susan Juby was in her adult offering The Woefield Poultry Collective. It was funny and entertaining with great characters. I wasn't sure what to expect with Bright's Light because it is YA. She had all the ingredients-great concept, interesting characters, and a witty voice. I did find it confusing at the beginning-seemed like I came in in the middle. But, it is fun, and I'd recco for a younger YA reader or a kid who doesn't read a lot.

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### **Pamela says**

[And so it ENDS.

"Ten minutes later, Bright sat in the pilot's seat of the *Sankalpa*, and Grassly told her which buttons to hit, in which order. The thousands of survivors from inside the Stare stoo

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### **Evelyn says**

This is a YA book and as such was pretty good. From my advantage of (old) age, I thought Juby did a nice job of introducing the idea that "it isn't all about me and having fun and how I look". A SciFi approach to bring a young person and becoming an adult?

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## Chandra Rooney says

Read as an ARC from HarperCollins Canada.

If you pick up Bright's Light with the expectation it is another action-packed read with the can't-put-down compulsion of The Hunger Games or Divergent, I fear you will be disappointed.

After I finished Bright's Light, I read on Susan Juby's blog that she wanted to write an opiate book. (About how we drug ourselves into oblivion as the world falls apart around us.) Sort of like what Brave New World was.

In that respect, she's done a great job with her concepts and her social commentary.

The book didn't work for me, because I've already read Brave New World. Also, I didn't make the strong connection with these characters I would've needed to really enjoy the book.

However, when I did find Bright's Light amusing, it was really amusing.

For readers who haven't encountered something like this before, it could be a great opportunity for them to think about consumer culture as an opiate. And it has a coating of absurdity to make it easier to digest.

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