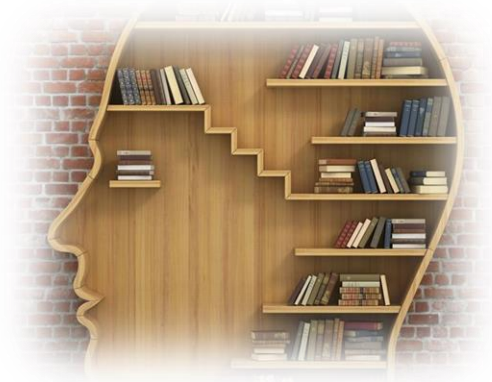


BOOK THOUGHTS

BATCH 37
BATCH 37



1. Your Caption Has Been Selected - Lawrence Wood
2. If Something Happens to Me - Alex Finlay
3. The Truth About Immigration - Zeke Hernandez

BLUE = MEMOIR OR BIOGRAPHICAL

BLACK = FICTION

DARK RED = EDUCATIONAL + HISTORICAL FICTION

PURPLE = ESSAY OR STORIES

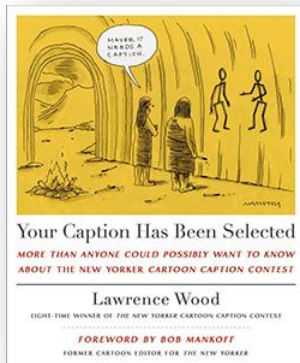
ORANGE = POETRY

YOUR CAPTION HAS BEEN SELECTED

LAWRENCE WOOD

Read, Laugh, Compete, Win! Exclamation points are lazy.

How did the book make me feel/think?



“Your Caption Has Been Selected,” by Lawrence Wood, is an insightful journey through the art of crafting winning captions, complete with fabulous artwork on nearly every page. This book is more than a guide; it’s a treasure trove of humour and wisdom for anyone eying the top spot in the New Yorker cartoon Caption Contest. Inspired by Wood’s mastery and his record of eight wins, I am determined to surpass his record. With enough wit and perseverance, I might achieve that – if not, I’ll certainly go down trying!

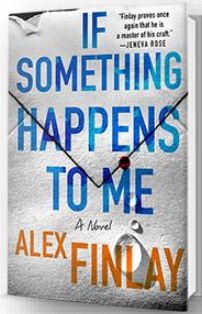
WRITTEN: 23 June 2024

IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO ME

ALEX FINLAY

A gripping yet familiar thrill ride...

How did the book make me feel/think?

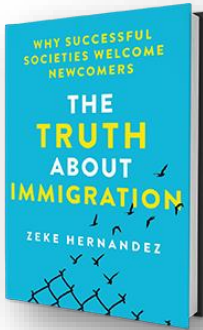


Alex Finlay's suspense/thriller, "If Something Happens to Me," is a propulsive ride that will have you gasping and guessing on every page as they flip past at a lightning pace. While the book is enjoyable, it exemplifies a trend I've noticed in the thriller genre: rarely original, repetitive formula, light. Much like episodic television shows, many thrillers find a premise, insert unbelievable twists (the more outlandish, the better), and piece it together in the end, helping readers come in from the fog. Despite being entertaining and often worthy of earning five stars, they rarely stand out or leave a lasting impression, leaving this reader to wonder whether these books are written for readers or as attempts to land television production deals. However, "If Something Happens to Me" shines through with its gripping narrative and memorable storytelling.

WRITTEN: 23 June 2024

THE TRUTH ABOUT IMMIGRATION

ZEKE HERNANDEZ



Embrace diversity, reject fear.

How did the book make me feel/think?

You either believe most people are good and pursuing happiness, or you think bad people are coming for your stuff. This mindset suggests a delusion that you've transcended your origins. Every political cycle in the USA brings up merit-based immigration to keep the USA on top. But what happens to the rest if the USA only allows the best in (and besides, who decides best?); The bad people are already here – they are American groomed – why fear those from other lands?

Stop whining about immigration. Being born here doesn't entitle us to everything. Let others share the burdens of consumption, like crippling debt. Saying "I'm not racist, I have a black friend" doesn't change the reality of prejudice.

Most people are good. That's what I believe, and this book reinforced that. America's delusion is that everyone wants to live there (they don't). Most people only want a slice of happiness. As one of the largest countries in the world, the USA has room for newcomers to enhance American lives with new foods, music, and vibes. Could you imagine if the 50 states of America were their own countries – the crisis then?

Imagine opening your closet to find only stiff white dress shirts – how boring! Now, picture it bursting with a colourful array of fabrics. Your closet springs to life, just like every country with diversity.

"The Truth About Immigration" by Zeke Hernandez should be read by everyone fearing immigration. Zeke debunks many myths but misses the mark because he 'can't write out' his sense of entitlement, even as an immigrant. Statistical data is fine, but it misses the beautiful pulse of immigration.

WRITTEN: 26 June 2024