



The Mockingbirds

By Daisy Whitney

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The Mockingbirds By Daisy Whitney

Some schools have honor codes.

Others have handbooks.

Themis Academy has the Mockingbirds.

From the glossy pages of its admissions brochure, the prestigious Themis Academy appears perfect in every way: exceptional academics, extraordinary students, the kind of extracurriculars to make an Ivy League proud, and zero instances of student misbehavior. But this boarding school isn't as pristine as it appears. There's a dark underbelly to the perfect record the Themis administration flaunts. Student infractions are rampant, and it's up to a secret vigilante society, the Mockingbirds, to maintain order on campus--a responsibility their members take very seriously.

Alex Patrick never thought she would need the Mockingbirds. But when she's date-raped by another student, she doesn't know where else to go. As much as she'd like to forget what happened, she can't escape the daily reminders of what went wrong that terrible night. Before she can summon the courage to take a stand, she'll have to accept that her battle for justice is not hers alone. Standing up for someone, especially yourself, is worth the fight.

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The Mockingbirds By Daisy Whitney Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From [Booklist](#)

"Silence does not equal consent. . . . The only thing that means yes is yes." When Alex, a junior at Themis, a New England boarding school, wakes up naked in a boy's bed, she doesn't immediately realize what has happened during the previous drunken night. As fragmented memories return, though, she begins to understand that what happened was date rape. With the encouragement of her friends and older sister, Alex submits her case to the Mockingbirds, an underground justice system inspired by Harper Lee's classic novel, in which Themis students investigate and try crimes committed against other students. Whitney, whose author's note discusses her own teenage experience of date rape and its aftermath, is a seasoned journalist, and she writes with smooth assurance and a propulsive rhythm as she follows Alex through the Mockingbird's trial process and its accompanying emotional storm of confusion, shame, fear, and finally, empowerment. Authentic and illuminating, this strong debut explores vital teen topics of sex and violence; crime and punishment; ineffectual authority; and the immeasurable, healing influence of friendship and love. Grades 9-12. --Gillian Engberg

Review

Praise for *The Mockingbirds*:

* "First-time author Whitney boldly addresses date rape, vigilantism, and academic politics in an intense and timely novel... Besides showing skill in executing suspense and drama, Whitney masterfully evokes the complexity of her protagonist's emotions, particularly her intense longing to feel 'normal' again."

?*Publishers Weekly* (Starred review)

"[Whitney] writes with smooth assurance and a propulsive rhythm as she follows Alex through the Mockingbird's trial process and its accompanying emotional storm of confusion, shame, fear, and finally, empowerment. Authentic and illuminating, this strong debut explores vital teen topics of sex and violence; crime and punishment; ineffectual authority; and the immeasurable, healing influence of friendship and love."?*Booklist*

"Extraordinary...Shocking and eye-opening, this book is hard to put down."

?*The Guardian*

"Puts a compelling and ingenious twist on everything you think you know about sex, violence, victimhood, justice--and the true meaning of power."?*Gayle Forman, author of If I Stay*

"Raw and riveting. Deserves a place of honor...alongside it's soul sister, *Speak*."

?*Justina Chen, author of North of Beautiful*

"In *The Mockingbirds*, Daisy Whitney has written an unflinchingly honest story about the importance of taking a stand and speaking out. An emotionally powerful debut that will leave readers breathless."?*Courtney Summers, author of Cracked Up to Be*

About the Author

Daisy Whitney reports on television, media and advertising for a range of news outlets. She graduated from Brown University and lives in San Francisco, California, with her fabulous husband, fantastic kids, and

adorable dogs. Daisy believes in karma and that nearly every outfit is improved with a splash of color. She is the author of *The Mockingbirds* novels, *When You Were Here*, and *Starry Nights*. Daisy invites you to follow her online at DaisyWhitney.com.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jan Doyle:

Why don't make it to become your habit? Right now, try to ready your time to do the important action, like looking for your favorite reserve and reading a book. Beside you can solve your long lasting problem; you can add your knowledge by the book entitled *The Mockingbirds*. Try to the actual book *The Mockingbirds* as your friend. It means that it can be your friend when you experience alone and beside regarding course make you smarter than previously. Yeah, it is very fortunate to suit your needs. The book makes you much more confidence because you can know anything by the book. So, we should make new experience and also knowledge with this book.

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Armando Lemaire:

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Cynthia Campbell:

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have to listening to another sixth sense.

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