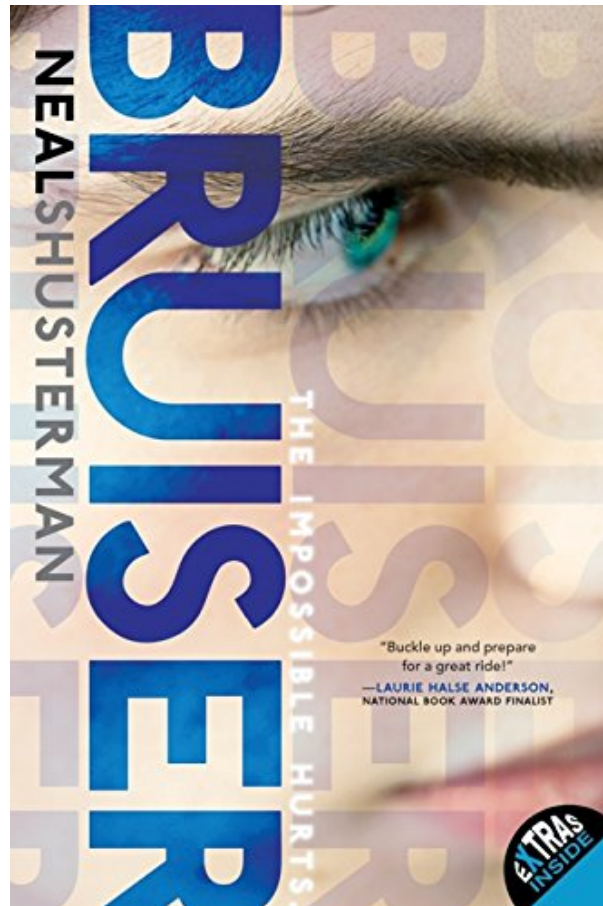
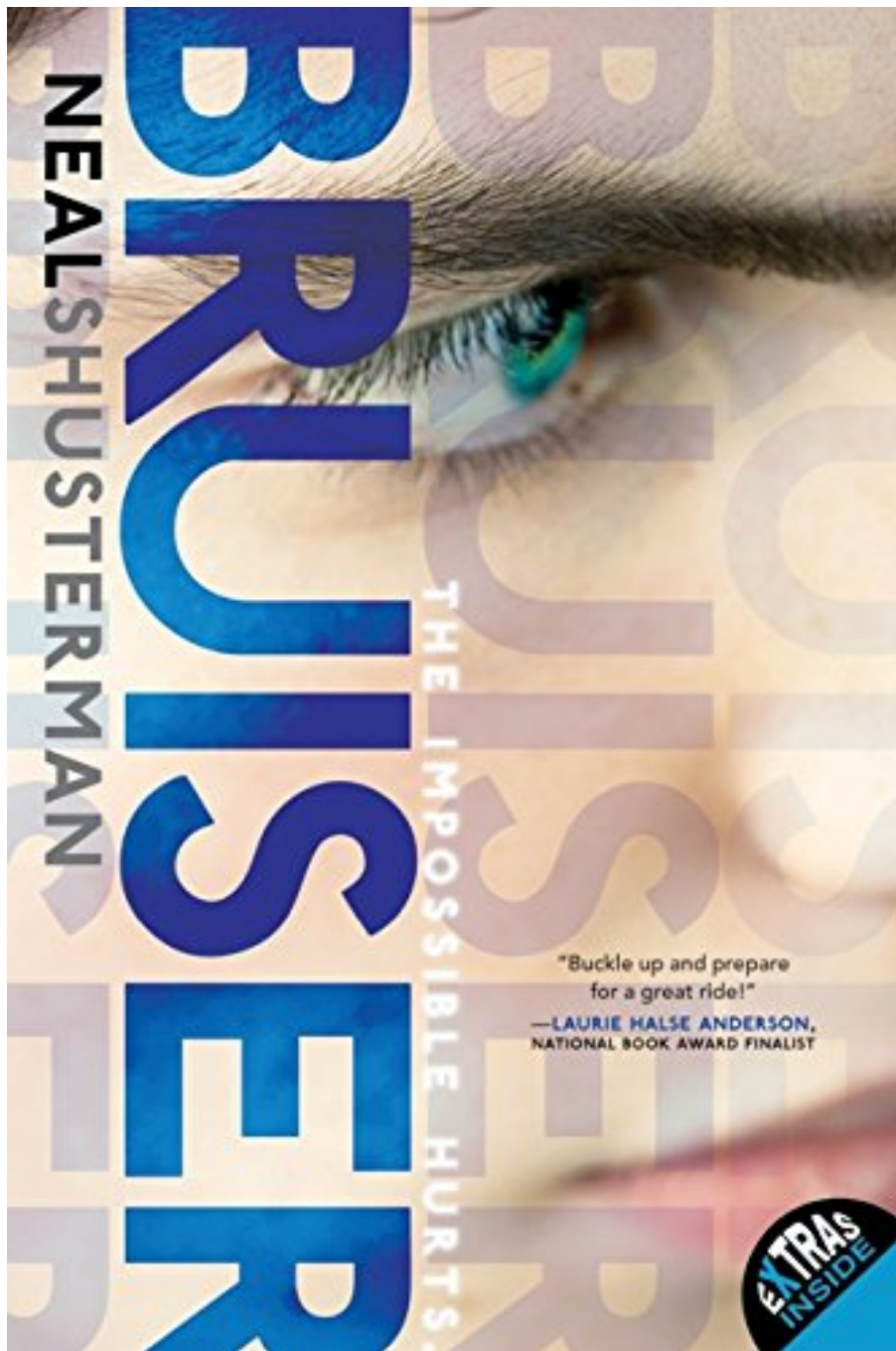


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From School Library Journal

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BRUISER BY NEAL SHUSTERMAN PDF

New York Times bestselling author Neal Shusterman delivers a suspenseful and thrilling novel that's perfect for fans of *Unwind* and *UnWholly*.

Tennyson is not surprised, really, when his family begins to fall apart, or when his twin sister, Brontë, starts dating the misunderstood bully, Brewster (or The Bruiser, as the entire high school calls him). Tennyson is determined to get to the bottom of The Bruiser's reputation, even if it means gearing up for a fight. Brontë, on the other hand, thinks there's something special underneath that tough exterior. And she's right...but neither she nor Tennyson is prepared for the truth of what lies below the surface. Told through Tennyson, Brontë, and Bruiser's points of view, this dark, twisting novel explores friendship, family, and the sacrifices we make for the people we love.

Bruiser was named to the Texas Lone Star Reading List, among many other state lists, and was selected as a Book Page Top Ten Book of the Year, a Bank Street College of Education Best Book of the Year, and a Cooperative Children's Book Center Choice.

Supports the Common Core State Standards

- Sales Rank: #78614 in Books
- Brand: Harper Teen
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- Released on: 2011-10-04
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.00" h x .79" w x 5.31" l, .65 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 352 pages

From School Library Journal

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Most helpful customer reviews

10 of 10 people found the following review helpful.

Bruised, broken, down but not out

By Cheryl Stout

Neal Shusterman really has a knack for writing Young Adult books that resonate with a much wider audience. I started reading "Bruiser" thinking I knew what the plot was going to be - I was WRONG. I hadn't read any of the promo materials and so had no idea and am glad that it happened that way. I was able to enjoy the twists and turns of the story because of that.

I really enjoyed that the book was written in four voices and that one of the voices was done totally in poetry. Shusterman just keeps surprising me with the high calibre of his writing. Unwind was one of my favorite all-time books. But guess what? This one is right up there, too.

Shusterman's books make you think. They make you question the world and how it operates. But they do it in an exceptionally readable manner.

CAUTION:

I would recommend this for older teens or adults. Some language, sexual situations, violence.

15 of 17 people found the following review helpful.

A wonderful, compelling read

By J.Prather

Much like Shusterman's *Unwind*, *Bruiser* is a well written story peopled with engaging characters that will make you think, and will stay with you long after you finish the last page. The author's incredible gift with dialogue, his expert pacing and his ability to blend in totally impossible concepts and make them believable is truly extraordinary. I admire people who exude an air of being comfortable in their own skin, and it's this that I think of when I read this book. The author is just so comfortable in his own storytelling, that there are no dialogue blips, no blatantly obvious plot devices, and no clunky transitions. This tale moves along seamlessly and the reader is left with a story that is stunningly authentic.

The narrative is presented from the differing points of view of brother and sister Tennyson and Bronte, Brew, and his younger brother Cody. If I have one issue with the book, it's that these characters come across as older than their years. They are not even 16, but come across as much older teens. The prose is very well written, and the transitions between points of view are done expertly. It's Brew's point of view, written in free verse, that truly contains the power of this story. I am not a fan of free verse. I steer clear of it whenever possible, but here it so effectively gives Brew his own unique voice that I was riveted. His verse is full of pain, anger and joy. His ruminations on the nature of pain and his abilities to absorb the pain (both emotional and physical) of others are very poignant.

Each character goes through his own journey in this novel, and you don't always like them. They do make you feel, and that seems to be the whole point of this story. What good are the ups if you can't feel the downs? This is a very good book that could very well be the author's best yet. There are no language issues, no sexual situations, but some violence and lots of intense emotion. This is a book to savor for both teens and adults.

6 of 7 people found the following review helpful.

Sickening.

By Claire

Definitely not for sensitive teens. The poor main character, Brewster, had the life from hell. I don't even want to talk about the sad plot. I may be addicted to happy endings, but this story made me more angry than sad. What was the author thinking? That this would be enjoyable reading? When I got to the end, I would have thrown it in the trash--something I never do to a book--but it was on my Kindle, so I just deleted it. It's not that the writing was bad, it wasn't. The story was just sick.

Sorry, Neal Shusterman, I don't think I'll want to read any more of your books.

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