

Title: *Blood Moon*
Author: Lucy Cutheo
Genre: Fiction

Reviewer Name and Grade: Alivia Y., 8th Grade

Date Reviewed: April 2 2021

The story starts with our protagonist Frankie, in modern times, heading to a party at an ice rink with her best friend Harriet. There she sees Benjamin, a boy that she is instantly interested in. They are only able to talk a bit before Frankie has to leave. Harriet and Frankie go to the treehouse that is on the edge between their houses. This is where they talk, and Harriet talks about boys. One of the boys she's interested in just happens to be her teacher, who is much older. Now, this is a bit strange, and Frankie also feels this way. The next day Harriet dresses in a revealing outfit and attempts to flirt with Mr. B, their teacher. Along with this, she sends an inappropriate picture of herself the following night, with her application for a summer program for astrology that both Harriet and Frankie are interested in. The next day Harriet gets in trouble and calls Frankie to come to comfort her. Frankie does a pretty bad job of comforting Harriet, basically saying that this was her fault, and although it could've been, it wasn't the right thing to say then. They argue, and Harriet ends up storming off. Harriet turns their entire friend group against Frankie. Harriet even goes as far as stealing Frankie's phone and taking a picture of Frankie in the school shower. Then pretends to send it to the teacher Mr. B, who handles their applications. But Frankie manages and gets closer to Benjamin, and Benjamin ends up confessing. They go to Frankie's house and Frankie has her first intimate event. But during that she has her period, Benjamin is a gentleman about it as he has an older sister and knows it's just biology. But somehow the information gets leaked, except no one knows who the girl is. A few of her friends are on Frankie's side, as what Harriet did was horrible. But Frankie is found out and becomes the joke of the school. Even worse someone makes a meme of it, and it goes viral. She gets so many horrible hate comments. Things you should never say to anyone no matter, some people even threatened to rape her. She tells her parents, and it's assumed that Harriet made the meme. As it was posted on her page first. But it's found that the school bully Jackson posted it, by hacking into Harriets' phone. He learned that Frankie and Benjamin had an intimate moment by looking over Benjamin's shoulder. As he was asking his sister if it was OK to do what he did while Frankie was on her period. Frankie and Harriet make up, and they plan a way to stand up for themselves. At the assembly on the next day, all of Frankie's friends wear shirts that tell the truth. Frankies saying things such as #ItsOnlyBlood, and #NoShame. While others just tell something about themselves no one has known, while saying #NoShame. They expose Jackson, and Frankie has finally escaped the meme. Frankie is brave and scared sometimes throughout the story. Benjamin is gullible, kind, and mature. Harriet is kind, but sarcastic and mean sometimes.

Did the plot keep you interested?

The plot did keep me interested. It was an amazing book that had many plot twists.

Was the pace of the book too fast, too slow, or just right?

The pace of the book was just right, but in some areas, I felt it was too slow and that it should've moved on some time ago.

What grade level(s) is this book appropriate for?

I think it would be appropriate for grades 9th-12th, as it has mentions of sex, as well as many profanities.

What type of reader would you recommend this book to?

I think someone who likes a strong feminist main character, and who likes plot twists.

What other information do you think would be helpful for teens to know about this book?

This book as many mention rape, and other sexual things. It has profanities and could be triggering for some people.

Rating:

I would rate this book 5 stars. I thought this book was awesome. It had a strong feminist character which is awesome. It talks about normalizing periods and other bodily functions. It had an awesome plot, and it was formatted interestingly. I loved it, although it was a bit sexual and was a bit inappropriate for someone younger.