

**Title:** Vinyl Moon  
**Author:** Mahogany L Browne  
**Genre:** Urban fiction

Reviewer Name and Grade: Kaileen C., Grade 8

Date reviewed: April 3, 2024

*Vinyl Moon* by Mahogany L. Browne is a young adult novel that explores themes of identity, family, and resilience. Set in present-day Brooklyn, the story is about 17-year-old Orion who finds peace in music/poetry amidst the challenges of growing up in a low-income neighborhood. Orion dreams of escaping his circumstances through his passion for DJing, but struggles with the expectations of his family and the realities of his environment. As he navigates relationships with his friends and grapples with his own insecurities, Orion learns to embrace his true self and find his voice through his art. Through lyrical language and imagery, *Vinyl Moon* captures the real emotions and experiences of adolescence, offering a powerful story of self-discovery.

*Did the plot keep you interested?*

The plot of *Vinyl Moon* kept me very interested with its poetic and heartfelt exploration of Orion's journey.

*Was the pace of the book just right?*

The pace of the book was okay, though it did feel a bit inconsistent at times such as in the middle of the book.

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

This book is appropriate for high school students, particularly those interested in poetry and coming-of-age stories.

*What type of reader would you recommend this book to?*

I would recommend this book to readers who appreciate lyrical writing and themes of identity and self-expression.

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

Teens should be aware that the book addresses sensitive topics such as family dynamics, mental health, and economic struggles, which may resonate for some people.

*Rating: 4 stars*

I liked *Vinyl Moon* and found it to be an enjoyable read. Browne's poetic lines beautifully capture the emotions and struggles of adolescence, offering a unique and engaging style. The characters are relatable and well-developed, and the themes of self-discovery and resilience are explored with depth and authenticity. As I said before, at times, the pacing felt slightly slow, particularly in the middle of the book, where the focus on introspection may deter some readers looking for more action-driven plots. But overall *Vinyl Moon* is a good and thought-provoking novel that leaves a lasting impact.