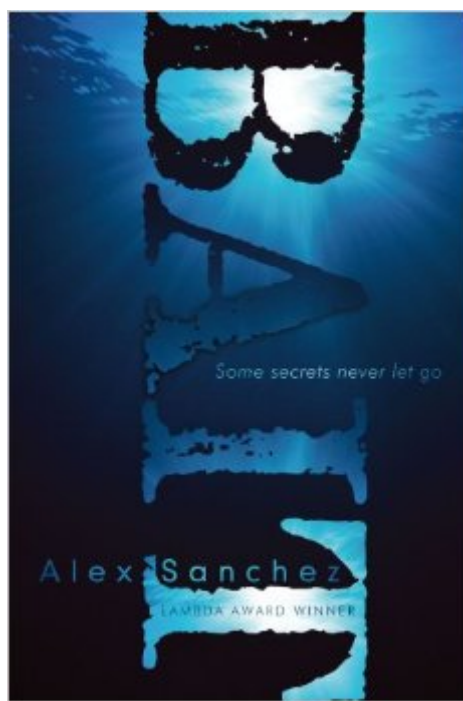


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Bait



Synopsis

Diego has gotten into trouble because of his temper before. But when he punches out a guy in school who was looking at him funny, he finds himself in juvenile court, facing the possibility of probation, or worse—juvenile jail. Mr. Vidas is assigned as his probation officer, but Diego doesn't trust or like him. However, he doesn't have a choice—he has to talk to Mr. Vidas, or he'll find himself in worse trouble. It's only when Diego starts to open up to Mr. Vidas that he begins to understand that the source of his anger is buried in his past—and to move beyond it, he needs to stop running from his personal demons.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: HL630L (What's this?)

Paperback: 256 pages

Publisher: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers; Reprint edition (2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1416937749

ISBN-13: 978-1416937746

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.7 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (28 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #547,945 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #119 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Sexual Abuse](#) #147 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Stepfamilies](#) #411 in [Books > Teens > Mysteries & Thrillers > Law & Crime](#)

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

This book is incredible. Alex Sanchez is one of my favorite authors and has been since I discovered Rainbow Boys. His characters are so completely human and relateable. Diego's character is powerful not at all "fictionalized". Diego could be a real life walking person for as well as his character is written. He was instantly someone you cared about and rooted for. This book had me crying like a faucet, at some points I didn't even know why I was crying except for just being so moved by the story. I would recommend it to anyone who enjoys Alex Sanchez's work, as this might just be his best so far, or to anyone just looking for a good book.

This book is amazing! The plot, character development, language, diction, everything! So real and the perfect novel for anyone who can't grasp the roots of homophobia for some people and/or people who have been molested as children. I wish this book when I was younger. Alex Sanchez is my literary hero after this.

This was a strange read, for me. It was well written, with an interesting plot, fairly decent back stories for all the main characters and enough action/intrigue to hold my attention. My biggest problem with this novel was the lack of a proper protagonist. Not a single character within the story had any redeemable qualities. Not a single one of them. Definitely not any of the six main castaways. And, certainly not any of the people they know or have contact with in their backstories. Unfortunately, none of the ex-military men, who happen to plan and carry out all the island shenanigans. Not even the two coast guard personnel who show up, however briefly, near the end of the story. So, there isn't a hero to root for. I found myself uninterested in who would survive or die. But, I did find myself wanting to get to the end, just to see what was gonna happen. Again, this goes back to the overall intriguing plot and just how well worded the story is written. I would not, though, come back for a sequel.

I've read this book several times and it made me cry every single time I did. This is one of my favorites books, even though I'm not into sentimental books or movies. This is a great book if you're going to a sort of depression, even if it's not Diego's sort of/cause of depression. Vidas is basically taking a roll of a psychologist/therapist towards you through the book without you even noticing it. Some people said something about some parts of the story being dull because of the ocean and the shark... *sighs* Symbolism, guys, symbolism... *SPOILER* Him being in the middle of the ocean symbolizes him being alone in the depression, anger, sadness, etc. due to the fact that he had to keep quiet about the rape. The shark symbolizes the shark tooth... You know? When he escaped his feelings through self-harm (that could've killed him if he wasn't careful). Put the shark and the ocean together and you get his life and maybe even a foreshadowing of his near-death experience. *SPOILER OVER* This story is not for everyone, obviously. If you think self-harm is "stupid" or a way to "seek attention," you WILL NOT be able to connect with the main character. This is the only book I've read from this author and I've been thinking about more of his stuff, but it doesn't seem like my thing. Plus, I don't have the time anymore... If you like sentimental books, I highly recommend this one. This one is in my top 5 favorites. :)

Though Diego is plagued by his demons, he desperately wants to find relief from it all so he can move on with his life. It's a dream that you root for him to achieve and he's honestly a likeable character. He says and does the wrong things sometimes (though we all do) and that leads him into trouble, but he wants to be a better guy. He really is a good person. His anger just gets the best of him and he can't properly control it. Through all of that, though, you want him to be the man you know that he is and to get past the life he's been dealt. The summary of BAIT doesn't give things away, so I don't want to, either, but this is an intense book that deals with big issues. It was definitely interesting and I'm very glad I was given the chance to read it. Diego hates the idea of being called gay, but why? Is it a mere prejudice or something more? The story delves into the "something more" side that leaves you horrified. It's a realistic novel that will hopefully help some and inform others. More than anything, I think this book brings up the topic of being honest with those you love. You have to trust them and hope they will be there for you when you need them to be. If they aren't, that's not your problem. It's just good to know you tried and that you can find help if you need it. It might be from unsuspecting people, but it might be from someone in your own house. You just don't know. BAIT is the fourth novel I've read by Alex Sanchez, and it was very different from the others - but not in a bad way. It digs deeper into the psyche of human emotion and experiences, and I found that highly interesting, if not always enjoyable, to read. Reviewed by: Lauren Ashley

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