



Shark Girl

By Kelly Bingham

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Shark Girl By Kelly Bingham

A teenager struggles through physical loss to the start of acceptance in an absorbing, artful novel at once honest and insightful, wrenching and redemptive.

On a sunny day in June, at the beach with her mom and brother, fifteen-year-old Jane Arrowood went for a swim. And then everything — absolutely everything — changed. Now she's counting down the days until she returns to school with her fake arm, where she knows kids will whisper, "That's her — that's Shark Girl," as she passes. In the meantime there are only questions: Why did this happen? Why her? What about her art? What about her life? In this striking first novel, Kelly Bingham uses poems, letters, telephone conversations, and newspaper clippings to look unflinchingly at what it's like to lose part of yourself - and to summon the courage it takes to find yourself again.

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Shark Girl By Kelly Bingham Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Starred Review. Grade 6–10—Jane, 15, is smart, good-looking, and the best artist in her school. After a shark attack at a local beach results in the amputation of her right arm, nothing is the same. Bingham's free-verse novel neatly accommodates the teen's loss; her dreams, anger, and frustration are explored as she rebelliously tries to adjust to her new circumstances. The main narrative is interspersed with news clippings, internal dialogue, and letters of support from other amputees, and even though Jane resists being part of that community, there are connections. Her voice is authentic and believable as both a teenager and victim. This engaging read will entice enthusiastic and reluctant readers; the drama of the shark attack will hook them, and Jane's inner journey will hold them till the end.—*Janet S. Thompson, Chicago Public Library*
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From [Booklist](#)

Jane Arrowood wonders if she will forever be known as the "Shark Girl," who survived a shark attack on a golden California June day. A popular 15-year-old with true artistic talent and a strong circle of friends, Jane suddenly feels extraordinarily different with a prosthesis where her arm should be, and, worse, pain and itching where it used to be. Why shouldn't she feel sorry for herself? Sometimes she almost wishes that she hadn't survived. Why shouldn't she feel different? In carefully constructed, sparsely crafted free verse, Bingham's debut novel offers a strong view of a teenager struggling to survive and learn to live again. Her metaphors are authentic, visual, and lovely, and she uses spacing between words to telegraph the pauses in awkward conversations when family and friends try but fail to address the real conversation--her missing arm. It's a familiar story line written in a fresh voice, one that will be justifiably popular. *Frances Bradburn*
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From the Publisher

In Kelly Bingham's striking first novel, she takes an unflinchingly look at what it's like to lose part of yourself - and to summon the courage it takes to find yourself again. It is, at once, honest and insightful, wrenching and redemptive.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Justin Moore:

Reading can called thoughts hangout, why? Because when you are reading a book specially book entitled Shark Girl your thoughts will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in each and every aspect that maybe not known for but surely might be your mind friends. Imaging every single word written in a e-book then become one web form conclusion and explanation that will maybe you never get previous to. The Shark Girl giving you yet another experience more than blown away your thoughts but also giving you useful info for your better life within this era. So now let us demonstrate the relaxing pattern the following is your body and mind is going to be pleased when you are finished examining it, like winning a sport. Do you want to try this extraordinary shelling out spare time activity?

Ruth Ward:

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Norma Ochoa:

As a student exactly feel bored in order to reading. If their teacher expected them to go to the library in order to make summary for some guide, they are complained. Just very little students that has reading's soul or real their hobby. They just do what the teacher want, like asked to the library. They go to at this time there but nothing reading critically. Any students feel that reading is not important, boring and can't see colorful images on there. Yeah, it is for being complicated. Book is very important to suit your needs. As we know that on this time, many ways to get whatever we want. Likewise word says, ways to reach Chinese's country. So , this Shark Girl can make you truly feel more interested to read.

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