

Uglies: protagonist and tally



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

Over the summer, I read a science fiction book placed in the future called Uglies by Scott Westerfield. In the book Uglies, the protagonist's name is Tally Youngblood. Before her best friend Shay ran away, she was supposed to turn pretty. When Special Circumstances found out about Shay running away, they made Tally a deal stating that if Tally finds Shay and turns her in, she will get to turn pretty, but if Tally does not turn Shay in, she may not turn pretty. The major conflict of the story is whether Tally should turn Shay in and become pretty or protect her friend and stay ugly.

In Uglies, the main character is Tally Youngblood (a. . a. Squint). If I were to give Tally a physical description, I would imagine her with frizzy brown hair, beady eyes and an uneven complexion as an ugly. In the beginning of the book she appears as a fifteen year old waiting for her sixteenth birthday. Tally likes to do the right thing but she is often caught up in her past mistakes making others resent her. She attempts to make up for those mistakes but usually certain circumstances intervene leaving her full of self-antipathy like when she betrayed Shay and the Smoke. Tally reminds me of Hermione Granger from Harry Potter because they are both adventurous.

Tally took a courageous choice when she went on the adventure to find her best friend, Shay. Hermione Granger is very adventurous because throughout the whole series of Harry Potter she was always with Harry Potter on his adventures no matter how petrifying they were. One of my favorite characters is Shay, the best friend of Tally. Shay (a. k. a Skinny) was an emaciated girl with dark, straight ponytails. Shay is a rebellious girl because she ran away so she wouldn't have to become pretty. Shay is my favorite

character because I can relate to her the most. I am like Shay because I don't like to be like everyone else.

Shay and I have our own style and voice that needs to be heard. Another character is David, the son of the Smoke's leaders Az and Maddy. Both Shay and Tally have a crush on him in the book. Even though David likes them both, in the end he shows more of favoritism to Tally. When David teaches Tally the ropes of becoming a Smokie, he expresses his crush on her. Both David and his father, Az, are alike because they both show the qualities of a leader by teaching survival skills to the Smokies. David and Az are also mentioned as looking alike because they both share a crooked smile. The overall antagonist is the

Special Circumstances, but their leader, Dr. Cable is the book's main antagonist. Dr. Cable denies Tally the surgery to become pretty until she finds Shay. Dr. Cable is the female surgeon who tried to destroy the Smokes. Dr. Cable is described to be taciturnly picturesque with non-reflective gray eyes. One of the characters I loathed the most is Peris. Peris used to be Tally's childhood acquaintance before he became pretty in the beginning of the book. He is visualized as a tall brown eyed teenage boy. I despise him because he is one of the main motives why Tally turns in Shay to the Special Circumstances.

One of the main themes of Uglies is that beauty does not fix everything. Another theme states that everything is not what it seems. And the last and final theme of Uglies is to be true to yourself and not to follow everyone else. Over the Summer I enjoyed reading Uglies because of its dystopian theme. If

I were to recommend this book to anyone, I would recommend it to the fans of The Hunger Games. Both books have a strong female protagonist living in a dystopia who has to fight for their rights. I hope you enjoyed Uglies and I hope you will be emboldened to read the rest of the books in the series.