



Hungry

By H. A. Swain



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For fans of *The Giver*, a futuristic thriller with a diverse cast.

In Thalia's world, there is no more food and no need for food, as everyone takes medication to ward off hunger. Her parents both work for the company that developed the drugs society consumes to quell any food cravings, and they live a life of privilege as a result. When Thalia meets a boy who is part of an underground movement to bring food back, she realizes that there is an entire world outside her own. She also starts to feel hunger, and so does the boy. Are the meds no longer working?

Together, they set out to find the only thing that will quell their hunger: real food. It's a journey that will change everything Thalia thought she knew. But can a "privy" like her ever truly be part of a revolution?

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Hungry By H. A. Swain Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 9 Up—Swain's near-futuristic dystopia explodes onto this well-trod genre with a fresh idea, tense plotting, and relatable characters. Earth's resources, ostensibly decimated by wars and superstorms, have vanished, along with any flora and fauna. Mega-corporation One World swoops in to salvage the remaining humans from starvation by altering their DNA so that they no longer experience any pesky hunger pangs. One World also supplies all nutrition through a formulalike substance called Synthamil. In this world in which any type of food is illegal, Thalia, 17, begins to suffer unexplainable spasms in her abdomen. Instead of being shipped off to a "specialist" to eradicate her natural hunger pangs, as was wont to happen, she seeks out the truth behind the hunger and One World's monopoly on food. She teams up with a non-"privy," Basil, who leads her further into the resistance movement than she would have thought possible. Thalia is faced with a decision—do the easy thing or do the right thing, all while battling her genetic "mutation" that makes her mouth water and her stomach growl. From the Inner Loops to the Outer, to the Hinterlands and beyond, Thalia's journey is fast-paced, scientifically plausible, and scarily possible. The mood is tense, curious—but never relaxed. Swain completes a unique tour de force with *Hungry*, one that requires readers to examine current society, their place within invisible and sometimes all-too-visible hierarchies, and the consequences of genetic engineering. Fans of Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale* (McClelland and Stewart, 1985) and Lois Lowry's *The Giver* (Houghton Harcourt, 1993) will flock to this story—Amanda C. Buschmann, Atascocita Middle School, Humble, TX

From [Booklist](#)

With a combination of synthetic nutrition and hormone-controlling inoculations that stop the body's hunger response, science has eradicated the need for food in Swain's crowded but compelling dystopia. Thalia Apple, 17, is the daughter of influential scientists working for One World, the corporation that developed Synthamil, ended global starvation, and gained total market dominance. Thalia rebels in small ways, like joining the hacker group Dynasaurs to sabotage One World's pervasive cyber marketing, but she doesn't truly question the system until she has a reason: she gets hungry. This shameful sensation of a growling stomach and gnawing emptiness leads her to another underground group, where she meets Basil, who shows her what it's like to be poor and dependent on a profit-driven corporation for nourishment. With solid, transparent writing and timely social commentary, this wild premise works quite well. Though Thalia and Basil follow a predictable arc toward romance and revolution, the privatization of government functions, especially medicine and pharmaceuticals, is a pivotal issue, and Swain semiplausibly imagines the implications. Grades 7-10. --Krista Hutley

Review

"Compelling . . . A female protagonist who isn't staunch, heroic, and perfect is increasingly rare in dystopias, so Thalia's fumbling around for the right path is refreshingly different." *?BCCB*

"Science has eradicated the need for food in Swain's crowded but compelling dystopia . . . with solid, transparent writing and timely social commentary, this wild premise works quite well." *?Booklist*

"An alluring adventure in a future without food . . . emotionally satisfying dystopia." *?Kirkus Reviews*

"The sensation-saturated world that Swain describes gives the story fresh interest." *?Publishers Weekly*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Mark Ames:

Do you have favorite book? If you have, what is your favorite's book? Book is very important thing for us to understand everything in the world. Each e-book has different aim or goal; it means that publication has different type. Some people truly feel enjoy to spend their a chance to read a book. These are reading whatever they get because their hobby will be reading a book. Think about the person who don't like looking at a book? Sometime, man feel need book whenever they found difficult problem or exercise. Well, probably you will require this Hungry.

Joan Burton:

Now a day people that Living in the era where everything reachable by match the internet and the resources inside can be true or not demand people to be aware of each info they get. How a lot more to be smart in getting any information nowadays? Of course the reply is reading a book. Reading a book can help folks out of this uncertainty Information specifically this Hungry book as this book offers you rich facts and knowledge. Of course the details in this book hundred % guarantees there is no doubt in it everbody knows.

Henrietta Roderick:

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Leslie Babcock:

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