



BRAiN RIDE

Angela Welch Prusia

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Broken limbs heal in eight weeks. What happens when your brain gets busted?

Jason's best friend died the day of the bike accident. The guy who woke up from the coma is nothing like the old Logan. His memory has more holes than Swiss cheese, and he can't count to ten. Doc explains the changes in Logan come from a traumatic brain injury. But words don't make dealing with Logan or his condition any easier. He's more impulsive than a toddler, and his black moods strain the boys' friendship. To cope, Jason turns to his sketchbook.

PB, Logan's tutor, encourages Jason. Together, they help Logan face a painfully slow recovery. When circumstances threaten to tear the friends apart, PB offers a solution. The catch: Jason must train for BRAN, an organized bike ride, and Logan has to get on a bike again.

Jason reluctantly agrees only to battle flat tires, bad weather, and road hazards. Logan struggles against his uncooperative brain and unresponsive body. Relearning to walk is challenge enough. How can he ever ride a bike?

Will the two friends give up? Or will Jason and Logan let adversity take them on the ride of their lives?

BRAiN RIDE Details

Date : Published January 23rd 2013 by Good Catch Publishing

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Author : Angela Welch Prusia

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From Reader Review BRAiN RiDE for online ebook

MaryEllen says

Good book. Quick read. A bit heart-wrenching, but triumphant.

LitPick Student Book Reviews says

BRAiN RiDE is a first-person story told from the view of two teenage boys, Jason and Logan. After a horrific bike accident, Logan is left with a serious brain injury. Although his change in mental capacity has put a strain on their brother-like relationship, they train together for an important bike race across the state. Aided by a teacher, they set out to keep moving from their past and maybe earn some money for Logan's medical bills.

Opinion:

Angela Prusia's story is believable. The main characters are basically your everyday teenagers who love music and sports. The story has realistic settings, characters, and themes. I enjoyed the humorous aspects of the book, and the illustrations are very clever. However, if you are an easily depressed reader, I would advise against reading this book, as things do go downhill occasionally in the storyline. Even though there is some questionable language, I would recommend this story to teenagers.

Reviewed by a LitPick Student Book Reviewer, Age 15

Kim Stokely says

I haven't ridden a bike in years and my YA tastes tend to run more toward fantasy so I wasn't sure I'd enjoy this novel. I was pleasantly surprised. Angela Prusia has written a realistic story about a boy recovering from a brain injury but done it with lots of humor and fun illustrations.

The story really centers around Jason, a young man living with his single dad, who struggles to accept the person his best friend, Logan, became after suffering a bike accident. Together, with the help of PB- their teacher and friend, the boys navigate Logan's recovery and Jason's floundering home life. As therapy for both boys, PB, an avid bicyclist, signs them up for BRAN- a bicycle race across Nebraska. Both boys learn about perseverance and the true meaning of friendship as they team up for the ride of their lives.

In a YA market inundated with paranormal romance and dystopian futures, BRAiN Ride is a refreshing change.

Karyn Niedert says

I received this book free as a Goodreads giveaway, and was glad I had the opportunity to read it. It is a YA fiction novel featuring two friends, Jason and Logan. The story centers around their friendship and how it is

tested when Logan suffers brain damage after a bike accident. Jason and Logan are written relatively believably, as considered from an adult perspective. I liked that Logan's recovery wasn't sugar-coated as a magical return to himself but rather the actual battle it truly would be. Jason's responses to Logan's mood swings and slow recovery seemed believable as well. I liked the character of the teacher/tutor PB, and how he related to both of the boys, not only focusing on his primary concern which was Logan, but also encouraging Jason towards drawing and art.

My only concern about the book was how choppy the chapters were and how quickly the author switched back and forth between the two main character's point of view. It was very easy for me to get confused and have to go back a page to get back on track. That is my only complaint about the book, which is pretty good. Now that I am finished reading it, I am going to make this one of my 14 year old son's reading challenges for the month. Angela Welch Prusia
