

I'm not one to actually read and finish a book but Concrete roses by Angie Thomas was different for me. From the first few pages, it grabbed my attention in a way most books don't. I found myself wanting to know what happens next. Before I realized it, I was fully pulled into Maverick Carter's world. The story felt real and it was written in ways that made it easy to understand.

The book follows Maverick, a seventeen year old growing up in garden heights. He was dealing with a lot of normal teenage things, like his dad being in prison, money being tight at home, and he's trying to balance that while dealing with school. On top of all that, the most interesting part of the story is him finding out he's going to be a father. The thing I liked most about this story is how honest and direct it is. Angie Thomas doesn't make Maverick look perfect, and she doesn't make his life look simple. Instead she shows all the pressure, challenges. And responsibilities he has to face at a young age.

As the story continues, Maverick starts to grow in ways he didn't expect. He starts to understand that being a man isn't about being tough, it's about taking responsibility and being there for the people he loves and making good decisions that will help his future. His relationship with his son Seven plays a part in maverick changes. Even though Maverick was scared at first he still tries to be there and do his best. I found that really meaningful because it shows a more realistic side of teenage fathers that other books don't really show.

Another thing in concrete roses that stands out to me is the settings. Garden heights feel like a real place with actual people. Angie Thomas brings the neighborhood to life by showing the way the characters talk, act, and support each other even if it's hard. The friendships, family relationships, and conflict all feel real and add drama to the story. It's similar to *The Hate You Give* since that one is about his daughter star.

Overall, Concrete Roses is a really good book that shows the challenges of growing up too fast, dealing with mistakes, and trying to make your future better. What makes it good is how easy it is to understand Maverick even when he messes up because his feelings are real and a lot of teenagers have to deal with those things too. I didn't expect to like the book as much as I did since I'm not someone who usually finishes books, but this one kept me reading it until the end.