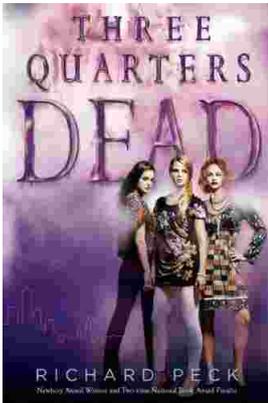


(Download free pdf) *Three Quarters Dead*

Three Quarters Dead



Three Quarters Dead

IS-54799

USmix/Data/US-2011

4/5 From 812 Reviews

Richard Peck

[audiobook](#) | [*ebooks](#) | [Download PDF](#) | [ePub](#) | [DOC](#)

 Download

 Read Online

6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. 100% ScaredBy Kate CoombsSophomore Kerry is attached to a popular, powerful trio of senior girls: beautiful Tanya, graceful Natalie, and lively Makenzie. Kerry earnestly assures us that the three of them aren't mean girls. Her reasoning? They talk to her. (Never mind the little zingers they throw in.) They sort of include her. And even though events--along with outside observers--conspire to convince Kerry that she is being used, the heady wine of hanging out with this particular group has her too drunk to admit things aren't so great. Readers will be quick to see that Tanya, the leader of the pack, is a little obsessed with a boy named Spence and with destroying the girl she thinks stole him from her. She enlists Kerry's help without giving her any real information, then leaves Kerry hanging when her plans go south. Which is just one example of the small and large clues we get about Tanya's true nature. Another key point in the early chapters is Kerry noticing Tanya's seeming ability to stop time, or rather, to draw it out to suit her purposes. Then the unthinkable happens: Tanya, Natalie, and Makenzie are killed when they wrap their car around an apple tree. Here's where Peck's premise gets extra good. Kerry goes into a fugue state, until one day she gets a text message from Tanya telling her to meet the three dead girls in the city at Tanya's Aunt Lily's apartment. Kerry's reaction is relief: "I'd known all along this entire...situation had been too bad to be true." The haunting of Kerry, which she participates in fervently for pages, is horrifically satisfying. For example, as the four girls dress up in vintage designer clothes from Aunt Lily's closet to go out on the town, the author has fun with macabre puns, the eerie scent of apple blossoms (referring to the tree the car hit), and narrator Kerry's oblivious acceptance of the fact that the dead girls need "major makeup." The driving force in this book is Kerry's unwillingness to let go--and her problem with being such a follower. Kerry's eagerness to be haunted is just as creepy as the ghosts themselves, and as painful. When she finally snaps out of it, readers will be cheering for her emancipation. By the way, there's a touch of romance here, but the key relationships in the book are the friendships between girls, for better or for worse. The most gorgeous thing about *Three Quarters Dead* is the tone, Kerry's voice and the way it interacts with pacing to build suspense. Peck has Kerry recount her experiences by looking back on the whole thing. In another book, this might create a sense of drag, but here it suits the genre, evoking a hushed midnight rendering of a ghost story lit only by a sleep-over flashlight. Considering the framing, there's an amazing feeling of suspense as we watch Kerry make a series of mindless mistakes, putting complete trust in someone