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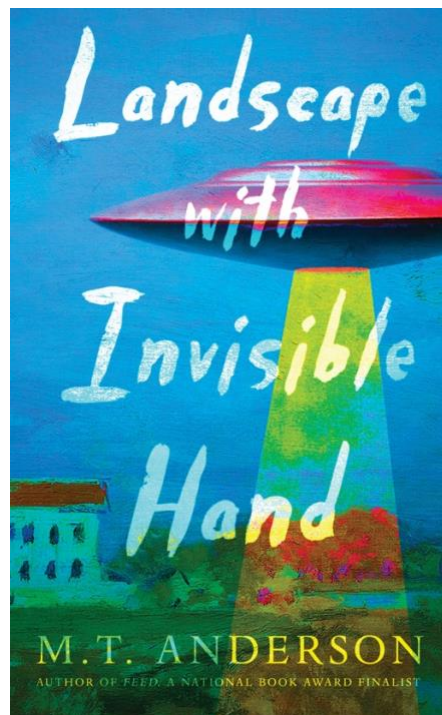
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## Review of *Landscape with Invisible Hand*

Written by M. T. Anderson

**Adult/Educator Reviewer:** Bernadeta Siska Indriyana  
Sanata Dharma University, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

**Student Reviewer:** Yoanna Nisa Novitasari, 10<sup>th</sup> Grade



Anderson, M. T. (2019). *Landscape with invisible hand*. Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press.

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**Adult Review: Bernadeta Siska Indriyana**

*Landscape with Invisible Hand* follows Adam Costello, a young artist as he and his family adjust to a broken economy because of an alien invasion. Adam, his mother, and sister have little money for food, water, or medication due to the job-destroying inventions of the extraterrestrial vuvv. Thanks to the curiosity with human inventions like 'true love,' Adam and his neighbor Cleo claim to be engaged in a romantic way and allow their acts in a pay-per-view arrangement to be filmed. Adam finds himself in a crisis of artistic integrity and gastric pain and is in a state of great pressure to please his alien superiors.

This book would appeal to high school readers, ages 17 and up. This satirical sci-fiction novel is darkly funny, politically insightful and examines the impact of foreign contact. A young painter addresses the creative dream of extraterrestrial invasion with the *Landscape with Invisible Hand*. It is not full of action, but Adam's challenge represents the urgency of the novel. Anderson demonstrates the dangers of fluctuating capitalism, which is not a lovely image. Of course, the morals of the story are simple: to be yourself in everything you do. Also, this is a great lesson for young people who are trying to make sense of who they are

There is a concern that an educator should consider before using or recommending this book. Educators need to know that *Landscape with Invisible Hand* is a satirical sci-fi novel by M.T. Anderson, the author of *The Pox Party* and *Feed*. It is set in the aftermath of an alien invasion and the subsequent economic collapse. The level of violence is low and restricted by a desperate job seeker to threaten Adam's mom. Sexual

content, with a range of sexual acts, is limited to cuddling and kissing. Swearing includes "bitch," "butt," "s-t" and "f-k," respectively.

**Student Review: Yoanna Nisa Novitasari**

I thought this book was important because it gave new topic about vuvv. That is free advanced technology and cures for every illness imaginable. This book also has good moral value that can apply in life.

In my opinion, this book is not suitable for readers younger than 17. This book consists of sexual, love, and economy life that were not suitable for those who are younger than 17.

I did enjoy the characters of *Landscape with Invisible Hand*, but I believe the most important character was the newly attacked Earth and how it was affecting its inhabitants. The setting coupled with Adam's landscape paintings clearly illustrated the world they were living in and helped each character to see what they needed to do to survive.

This book invites us to be ourselves and never give up for everything we do. Overall, I loved *Landscape with Invisible Hand*. It was unlike anything I have ever read and showed me many things about life, our planet and not taking things for granted. All we have, everything we worked so hard for tomorrow could go missing or become worthless, so we always have to count today. So long as you have your family, art and hope, everything will always be OK.