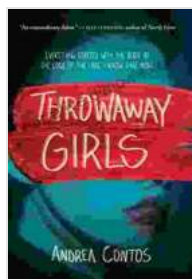


# Throwaway Girls: An Unflinching Look at the Plight of Sexual Assault Survivors

Andrea Contos's "Throwaway Girls" is a powerful and disturbing exposé of the systemic failure to protect and support survivors of sexual assault. Through the gut-wrenching accounts of four young women, Contos paints a harrowing picture of the challenges faced by those who have been violated and silenced. Drawing on years of research and interviews with survivors, activists, and experts, "Throwaway Girls" reveals the shocking truth about the epidemic of sexual violence in our society and the urgent need for change.

The heart of "Throwaway Girls" lies in the personal stories of four brave women who have shared their experiences with sexual assault. Each account is a testament to the courage and resilience of survivors, but it also lays bare the systemic failures that continue to perpetuate sexual violence.

- **Katie:** A high school student who was raped by her boyfriend and then blamed for her own assault.



## Throwaway Girls by Andrea Contos

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 9019 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Print length : 396 pages

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- **Sarah:** A college athlete who was drugged and sexually assaulted by her teammates.
- **Emily:** A young woman who was raped by a stranger while walking home from work.
- **Jessica:** A domestic violence survivor who was repeatedly raped by her husband.

Through these intimate narratives, Contos shows the devastating impact of sexual assault on survivors' lives. The stories highlight the trauma, fear, and isolation that survivors often experience, as well as the barriers they face in seeking justice and healing.

"Throwaway Girls" goes beyond the personal stories to expose the systemic failures that allow sexual assault to flourish. Contos reveals the biases and stereotypes that prevent survivors from being believed, the lack of support and resources available to them, and the culture of victim-blaming that perpetuates the cycle of violence.

- **Lack of Belief:** Survivors of sexual assault are often met with skepticism and disbelief from law enforcement, healthcare providers, and even their own family and friends. This lack of belief can make it difficult for survivors to report their assaults and access the help they need.
- **Lack of Support:** Survivors of sexual assault often feel isolated and alone. There is a lack of resources and support available to them, both

in the immediate aftermath of the assault and in the long-term. This can make it difficult for survivors to heal and rebuild their lives.

- **Victim-Blaming:** Victim-blaming is a common way of silencing survivors and perpetuating sexual violence. Survivors are often blamed for their own assaults, which can discourage them from reporting or seeking help.

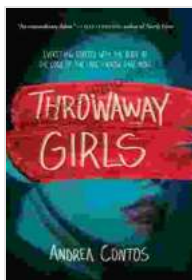
Contos argues that these systemic failures are not inevitable. By challenging the biases and stereotypes that surround sexual assault, by providing more support and resources to survivors, and by creating a culture where victims are believed and perpetrators are held accountable, we can create a society where sexual violence is no longer tolerated.

"Throwaway Girls" is a wake-up call for society. Contos's powerful narrative and rigorous research lay bare the urgent need for change. She calls on us to:

- Believe survivors and listen to their stories.
- Provide more support and resources for survivors, both in the immediate aftermath of the assault and in the long-term.
- Challenge victim-blaming and create a culture where perpetrators are held accountable.
- Work to prevent sexual assault by educating young people about healthy relationships and consent.

Contos's book is not an easy read, but it is an essential one. It is a powerful reminder of the devastating impact of sexual violence and a clarion call for change. By raising awareness and challenging the status quo, "Throwaway Girls" empowers survivors and inspires us all to work towards a more just and equitable world.

Andrea Contos's "Throwaway Girls" is a must-read for anyone who cares about the issue of sexual assault. It is a powerful and disturbing book that reveals the systemic failures that continue to perpetuate sexual violence and the urgent need for change. Through the gut-wrenching accounts of four brave women, Contos lays bare the challenges faced by survivors of sexual assault and the culture of disbelief and victim-blaming that silences them. "Throwaway Girls" is a wake-up call for society, and it is our responsibility to answer the call and work towards a world where sexual violence is no longer tolerated.



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