



The Five Stages of Andrew Brawley

By *Shaun David Hutchinson*

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The Five Stages of Andrew Brawley By *Shaun David Hutchinson*

A heartbreakingly uplifting story of grief about a boy who has lost everything, but finds new hope drawing in the shadows of a hospital. Features a thirty-two-page graphic novel.

Andrew Brawley was supposed to die that night, just like the rest of his family.

Now he lives in the hospital, serving food in the cafeteria, hanging out with the nurses, sleeping in a forgotten supply closet. Drew blends in to near invisibility, hiding from his past, his guilt, and those who are trying to find him. His only solace is in the world of the superhero he's created—Patient F.

Then, one night, Rusty is wheeled into the ER, half his body burned by hateful classmates. Rusty's agony calls out to Drew like a beacon, pulling them both together through all their pain and grief. In Rusty, Drew sees hope, happiness, and a future for both of them. A future outside of the hospital, and away from their pasts.

But to save Rusty, Drew will have to confront Death, and life will have to get worse before it gets better. And by telling the truth about who he really is, Drew risks destroying any chance of a future.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 10 Up—Narrator Andrew is a 17-year-old survivor of a terrible car accident that killed his parents and younger sister. He blames himself, is consumed by survivor's guilt, and is on the run from his life, hiding out in a half-finished wing of the hospital where they died. One night, Rusty, another boy his age, arrives in the ER, the apparent victim of a hate crime, badly burned over much of his body. Andrew begins visiting him late at night, reading first from his own comic, Patient F, and then from novels lent to him by the cafeteria manager. The boys come to realize a powerful attraction for one another and Andrew begins to open up to love and forgiveness. The portrayal of his new life is intriguing as readers follow the teen as he works in the cafeteria, makes friends with nurses and patients (particularly two cancer-afflicted teens), and visits and debates with the hospital chaplain, managing to flesh out a supportive shadow community in the absence of his family. The budding romance with Rusty is sensitively portrayed. But the tone through much of the novel is suffocatingly dark, the language cliched and florid. Sentiments such as, "hope is a scam" and "suffering is deserved," quickly bog down the narrative. Chapters are interspersed with excerpts from Andrew's comic, which is difficult to follow but even darker than the text and disconcertingly severe. The few sexual references are fairly tame, but repeated violence and dense emotional situations make this title best suited for older teens.—Bob Hassett, Luther Jackson Middle School, Falls Church, VA

Review

"*The Five Stages of Andrew Brawley* broke my heart, then put it back together again. I truly loved this book."
(Bruce Coville)

"A wonderfully written book that is more proof that the genre of 'LGBT YA lit' simply knows no bounds."
(Brent Hartinger *author of GEOGRAPHY CLUB*)

"The Five Stages of Andrew Brawley is as inventive as it is moving. A beautiful book." (Trish Doller *author of WHERE THE STARS STILL SHINE*)

"Hutchinson builds believable secondary characters and presents unexpectedly fresh plotting and genuine repartee—the conversations among Drew and his two teen friends feel particularly real and are full of insight and humor. Hutchinson remains an author worth watching." (Kirkus Reviews)

"Dark and frequently grim situations are lightened by realistic dialogue and genuineness of feeling. [A] heartbreak yet ultimately hopeful work from a writer to watch." (Booklist)

"In this haunting tale of grief and recovery, [Hutchinson] spins an engrossing story, with Drew's perceptions lending it an almost surreal, supernatural quality...further developed by violent excerpts from [the included graphic novel] Patient F." (Publishers Weekly)

About the Author

Shaun David Hutchinson is the author of numerous books for young adults, including *The Five Stages of Andrew Brawley*, which won the Florida Book Awards' Gold Medal in the Young Adult category and was named to the ALA's 2015 Rainbow Book List; the anthology *Violent Ends*, which received a starred review from VOYA; and *We Are the Ants*, which received five starred reviews and was named a best book of January 2016 by Amazon.com, Kobo.com, Publishers Weekly, and iBooks. He lives in South Florida with his adorably chubby dog, and enjoys *Doctor Who*, comic books, and yelling at the TV. Visit him at

ShaunDavidHutchinson.com.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Steve Adams:

Reading can be called imagination hangout, why? Because when you are reading a book especially book entitled The Five Stages of Andrew Brawley your head will drift away through every dimension, wandering in every single aspect that maybe not known for but surely will end up your mind friends. Imaging each word written in a guide then become one form conclusion and explanation this maybe you never get just before. The The Five Stages of Andrew Brawley giving you one more experience more than blown away your thoughts but also giving you useful info for your better life in this particular era. So now let us explain to you the relaxing pattern is your body and mind is going to be pleased when you are finished studying it, like winning a. Do you want to try this extraordinary wasting spare time activity?

Frank Barcomb:

You are able to spend your free time you just read this book this e-book. This The Five Stages of Andrew Brawley is simple to create you can read it in the recreation area, in the beach, train along with soon. If you did not have got much space to bring typically the printed book, you can buy typically the e-book. It is make you easier to read it. You can save typically the book in your smart phone. And so there are a lot of benefits that you will get when you buy this book.

Philip Raber:

On this era which is the greater person or who has ability in doing something more are more precious than other. Do you want to become one of it? It is just simple way to have that. What you must do is just spending your time little but quite enough to get a look at some books. One of several books in the top list in your reading list is actually The Five Stages of Andrew Brawley. This book that is certainly qualified as The Hungry Hillsides can get you closer in turning into precious person. By looking right up and review this reserve you can get many advantages.

Travis Pope:

A number of people said that they feel bored stiff when they reading a book. They are directly felt this when they get a half parts of the book. You can choose often the book The Five Stages of Andrew Brawley to make your current reading is interesting. Your own personal skill of reading ability is developing when you similar to reading. Try to choose straightforward book to make you enjoy to see it and mingle the sensation about book and reading through especially. It is to be first opinion for you to like to open up a book and learn it. Beside that the publication The Five Stages of Andrew Brawley can to be your new friend when you're experience alone and confuse with what must you're doing of their time.

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