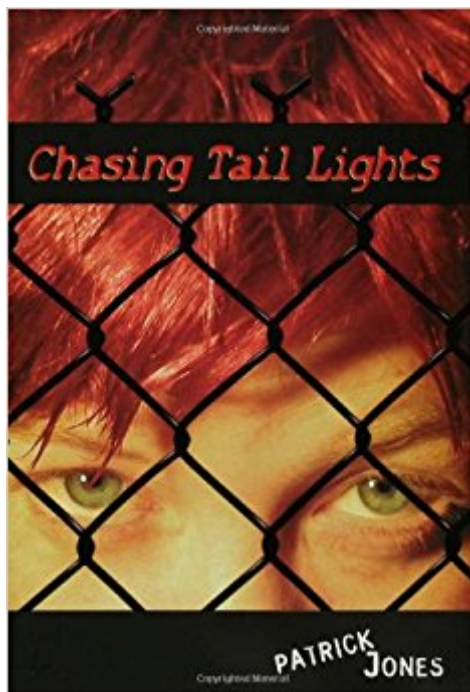


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Chasing Tail Lights



Synopsis

Break free. Before he died, Christy's daddy used to say that when you feel lost, follow the tail lights of the truck in front of you, and they'll get you somewhere safe. Christy keeps chasing those tail lights, but somehow, she's always still lost in Flint, Michigan. Like most teens in Flint, she's dying to leave this dying city. But she's got a secret that she's never told anyone, and it's keeping her chained like a dog to her dead-end life. And she'll never be able to make a fresh start until she's able to reveal that horrible truth and bring herself back into the light. Patrick Jones revisits his hometown of Flint, Michigan, and the darkness that has overtaken this impoverished city in a novel that reveals the chilling reality of growing up on the wrong side of the tracks in America today.

Book Information

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Language: English

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #457,107 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #103 in Books > Teens >

Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Sexual Abuse #167 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Drugs & Alcohol Abuse #483 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Self Esteem & Reliance

Customer Reviews

PATRICK JONES received lifetime achievement awards from both the American Library Association and the Catholic Library Association for his work motivating young people to read. He is also the author of many teen novels, including *The Tear Collector*, *Stolen Car*, and *Things Change*. Patrick was born and raised in Flint, Michigan, and currently lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota. www.connectingya.com

Christy is a senior in high school and can't wait to get out of Flint, Michigan. She probably never will leave, but hearing her father always talk about "chasing tail lights" until they take you where you want to be, gives her the hope she needs to get through the mess that is her life. In fifth grade,

Christy's father died and life has never been the same. Her mother works hard and drinks hard, but doesn't have a kind word for Christy. Christy's half-brother, Ryan, gets their mother's love even though he deserves it the least. Bree, Christy's little niece, has become her responsibility. She cooks, cleans, and does laundry while she keeps an eye on Bree and swears to keep her safe. School could offer Christy a way to escape Flint, but with so-so grades and sleepless nights that cause her to be late to class or unable to keep her eyes open, things look less than promising for Christy's future. When Christy demonstrates her ability to run, English teacher Ms. Chapman urges her to join the track team. She also supplies Christy with an unending supply of books to read, each one with a message designed to help the young girl cope with her troubling world. But even encouragement from Ms. Chapman and her best friend, Anne, can't get Christy to accept and admit what is happening on the dark side of her life. CHASING TAIL LIGHTS exposes the sickening underbelly of sexual abuse. Christy, an innocent victim of the ugly crime, fights with determination to better her life and protect those around her. Readers will feel her pain and cheer her accomplishments as she learns to accept her situation and make a plea for help. Patrick Jones, author of *Things Change* and *Nailed*, has outdone himself with this one. Reviewed by: Sally Kruger, aka "Readingjunky"

Christy loves to stand on the highway overpass watching cars, and trying to understand her new life since her father died. For alcoholism and violence has long plagued the only place she can call home, and Christy is searching for anyone to lead her away from home and Flint Michigan. A gentle story of self-discovery and possible wrong paths evolves.

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