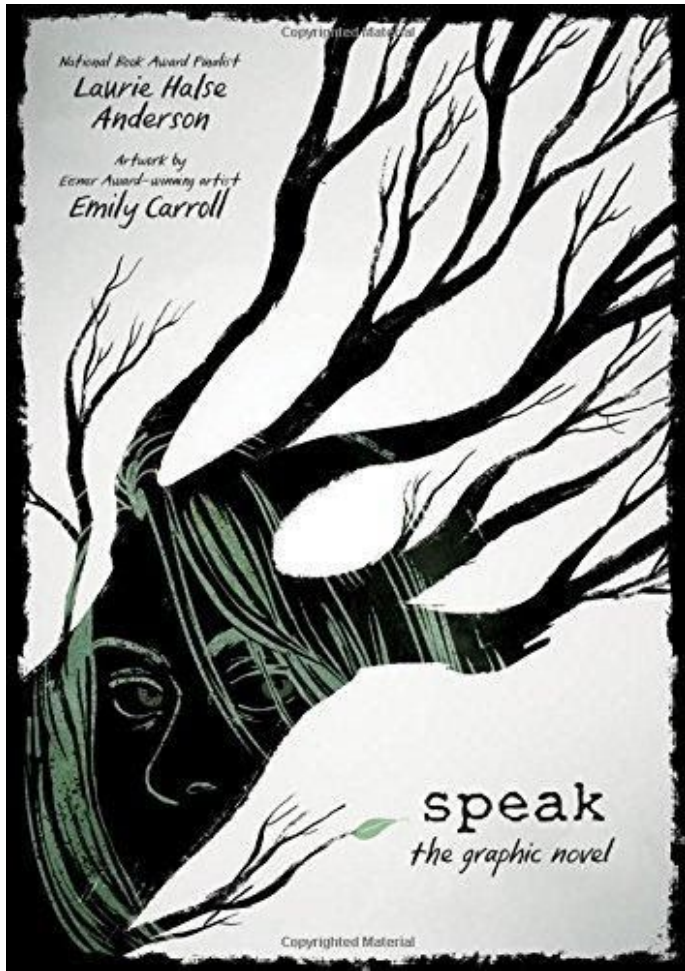


# *Speak: The Graphic Novel*

Laurie Halse Anderson



It was the best of times, it was the worst of times...high school. High school is a time that can be filled with laughter, joy, outstanding athletic accomplishment, and a time for students to excel in academic achievement! Or...high school can be a time of depression, loneliness, and the feeling of being lost in a crowd.

Anderson's story depicts a rollercoaster of emotions for one adolescent female who is going through troubled times that no high school student should have to endure. Struggling grades, parents on the brink of divorce, and the drama that shadow students as they move through this confusing time of their lives are all presents in this novel. Speak will make you feel the distress one young female is suppressing. Read this book if you are willing to accept a troubling reality and are willing to stand up for what is right.

This excellent story is also accompanied by fantastic visual art to help make the story come alive. The details and lack of color in the artwork help portray the emotional time that the main character, Melinda, is going through. The visuals really allow the reader to feel the pain and sorry that this young adolescent is experiencing.

## Similar Books

- Shout: The True Story of a Survivor Who Refused to be Silenced - Laurie Halse Anderson

- Hope was Here - Joan Bauer

- A Step from Heaven - An Na

**Genre** Realistic Fiction - graphic novel

**Tags:** Teen, depression, high school relationships, drama, sexual assault

**Disclaimer:** An issue presented in this book is that there is a very powerful message about rape and the post-traumatic stress that comes with the atrocity. The book is implicit enough to make the novel not "R-rated," but there are some powerful pages for an adolescent reader.