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# Friday Never Leaving



## **Synopsis**

>Friday Brown has never had a home. She and her mother live on the road, running away from the past instead of putting down roots. So when her mom succumbs to cancer, the only thing Friday can do is keep moving. Her journey takes her to an abandoned house where a bunch of street kids are squatting, and an intimidating girl named Arden holds court. Friday gets initiated into the group, but her relationship with Arden is precarious, which puts Friday "and anyone who befriends her" at risk. With the threat of a dangerous confrontation looming, Friday has to decide between returning to her isolated, transient life, or trying to help the people she's come to care about "if she can still make it out alive.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

As I was reading this book, all I wanted to do was save Friday: from her dreams, from her situation, just from it all. This was not an easy read, but it was unexpectedly hopeful and exquisitely detailed; full of emotional highs and lows, and set in the wilds of outback Australia. After completing this book: I can only say - read it. Younger or older - you should read this. Few will encounter a journey through trials and tribulation like this, and the perspective it brings to seeing your own troubles in a new light is truly refreshing. Friday is a young girl in transition: smart, loyal and a bit lost and lonely after she abandons her grandfather's home on her mother's death. Lonely and a bit afraid, she makes a connection with a group of street kids who are squatting in an abandoned house. While each kid in this little family has their own story to tell, there is instant dislike between the de facto

leader Arden and Friday. While she and Silence are deepening their friendship, a new and fleeting love interest appears in Wish. There are so many different characteristics built into these children and their appearances and personalities that each is a breathing being within the room as you come to know them. So vastly different in tastes, likes and dislikes - their one connection is the need to belong, and Arden fills the gap nicely with her rough around the edges loyalty and determination. There are so many elements to love about this book: and so many to tear at your heart and bring you to tears, Wakefield has managed to touch on all sorts of darker issues and themes yet provide a story that provides hope even as you are mulling it over long after the last page is turned.

\*\*\* This review was of the original Australian release 'Friday Brown' \*\*\*Liliane 'Friday' Brown is a wanderer. She and her mother, Vivienne, spent Friday's formidable years bouncing from one outback town to the next, chasing drover men and trying to escape a watery Saturday curse ... Friday has been hearing the tales of her drowned women ancestors since she was a child. Brown women always die by drowning, and always on a Saturday. Saturday is the reason Vivienne nicknamed her daughter Friday, it's why she kept them wandering around the desert outback, and in the end it killed her anyway. Now Friday is alone, but she still feels the need to follow in her mother's wandering footsteps. Friday packs up her swag and leaves her grandfather's quiet home, with the concrete pool. She hoofs it into the city, and there feels more lost and alone, never more aware of the hole Vivienne left in her heart. And then Friday meets Silence. Or, rather, they perform a small miracle together and ignite a fateful friendship that Friday is never likely to forget... Silence is a street kid. He does not talk much, and upon her pleading he leads Friday to the abandoned house where he and his street 'family' live. There's little boy AiAi who jangles when he walks, for all the bones his old daddy broke. Darcy makes her living from men, and she hates Friday on sight. Joe is a straight-talking wise boy, and Carrie has fangs and a wounded past. Bree is an indigenous girl whose family perform street music, and Mailk is the muscle who sells drugs on the side. And reigning over all these lost boys and girls is Arden, a veritable Peter Pan ian with dreadlocks and a vengeful tattoo.

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