



# **This Thing Called Life: Hydeia's Dilemma (Book 1)**

*Ashshajuanna*

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## **This Thing Called Life: Hydeia's Dilemma (Book 1)** Ashshajuanna

Hydeia Price, a young girl with low self-esteem and no parental guidance is mistreated, neglected and abused by the hands of her drug addicted mother Sharon. Although her journey of life experiences become tiresome Hydeia is determined to fight for her strength, dignity, and respect. Through prayer and with the help of friends and loved ones, over the years she learns to understand and appreciate her worth. When someone from her past suddenly reemerges her whole world changes and things will never be the same, which forces Hydeia to make some life changing decisions. Will she forgive her mother for the abuse or is she determined to even the score?

## **This Thing Called Life: Hydeia's Dilemma (Book 1) Details**

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# From Reader Review This Thing Called Life: Hydeia's Dilemma (Book 1) for online ebook

**Kourtney Bradley says**

<http://onlinebookclub.org/reviews/by-...>

View my reviews at the above link.

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**Nesly Clerge says**

Author Ashshajuanna has a great story to tell. I rated the book 4.5 stars and rounded it to 5 stars! This is definitely a tear- jerking type of story. Some titles are metaphorically created, but in this case the title is an accurate representation of the actual story. The main character is Hydeia, and this mere child had to deal with situations that we couldn't even imagine. At such an early age, her innocence was ripped away from her as a result of her mother Sharon, a self-centered, callous, heartless drug addict. Her father was not in her life—at least not initially; fortunately for Hydeia, she was surrounded by compassionate and thoughtful people like Marcus, Zelil, Skye, and eventually Julian her father. All Hydeia desired was her mother's love, but her mother's drug-seeking and malicious behavior destroyed that relationship. Hydeia matured rather quickly since she had to provide for herself. On several occasions she had to deal with her mother's constant and frequent encounter with strange men, a life of squalor, verbal abuse, physical assault, and the psychological degradation that comes with such a life.

The story is plausible, and while we take the people in our lives for granted, the narrative points out why we should be grateful for the people that care and love us. The story is a realistic passage into the lives of the less fortunate. This is a young girl that had to deal with being raped by her mother's boyfriend/drug dealer. There are several scenes in the book that will lacerate, tear, and yank your heart away. Here's one of the many examples:

"She'd enjoyed her daily showers in a clean tub and loved the feeling of the plush cotton towel which dried her smooth paper-brown skin. She had a brand new electric toothbrush which Skye provided and Zelil's bed was like sleeping on a cloud compared to that dirty old mattress that rested on her bedroom floor at home. She wore zelil's clothes and was happy to go to school and flaunt them. For the first time, she was happy."

I'm very thankful for the story because it provided a glimpse into reality. The fact of the matter is this: Verbal abuse and physical abuse exist, and they happen more often than we think. The content of the book is what did it for me; although, the obvious mechanics such as plot fluidity and character development were also present. ***This Thing Called Life was an enlightening experience!***

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**Carol says**

**This Thing Called Life**

I wasn't looking for the book to end like this. Hydeia has a complicated and miserable childhood thanks to her drug addicted mother. She suffered like no other at such a young age. It was a good thing she had support and love from others.

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### **Helen L. Williams says**

#### **What a Mother**

I got a feeling that Sharon is after the money also, this poor child doesn't have no one but Nana, Marcus and Z. Hope her dad talk to the old lady across the street, she be knowing things.

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### **Street Literature says**

We really enjoyed 'This Thing Called Life: Hydeia's Dilemma.' We've given it 4 STARS.

Ashshajuanna's book 'This Thing Called Life: Hydeia's Dilemma' is a heartfelt story about a young girl's struggle with her mother's abuse, neglect and drug and alcohol addiction.

Right from the opening chapter we found ourselves immersed in the story which is very well written throughout making it easy to get through and hard to put down. We could tell that the author put a lot of thought into her characters which made her story both enjoyable and relatable. Even the secondary characters are well developed.

The title in no way indicated that Hydeia would find a solution to her dilemma so we didn't expect the story to end in such a way. However, we did find it inspiring that the author showed dignified ways for her main character to deal with her problems. Hydeia's dilemma was never exaggerated nor did she rush her healing process. This book really pulls on the reader's heart strings and makes you appreciative of the little things in life while reminding you that there are people who are not as well off as others.

What we loved most about this story was Hydeia's friendship with young Zelil and Marcus. The trio's friendship is equally as heartwarming as the story itself. It was both emotional and gratifying to see her friends care so much about her welfare in their young age.

We can't wait to find out what happens next in the sequel.

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### **Q Owens says**

#### **GOOD BOOK!!!!**

I really enjoyed this book. It was great. I can't wait for part 2. It will definitely be worth the read. This was my first time reading a book by this author but it definitely won't be my last...

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