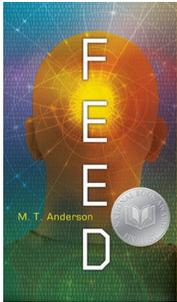


Books by the Stack



Feed by M.T. Anderson

For Titus and his friends, it started out like any ordinary trip to the moon - a chance to party during spring break and play with some stupid low-grav at the Ricochet Lounge. But that was before the crazy hacker caused all their feeds to malfunction, sending them to the hospital to lie around with nothing inside their heads for days. And it was before Titus met Violet, a beautiful, brainy teenage girl who has decided to fight the feed and its omnipresent ability to categorize human thoughts and desires.

Why you'll like it: Futuristic. Fascinating. Suspenseful plot. Quirky characters.

About the Author: M.T. Anderson is the author of several books for older readers, as well as picture books for children and adventure novels for young readers. Both the first and second volumes of his two-part *Octavian Nothing* saga were Printz Honor books.

Questions for Discussion

1. Both the “chat” and “bannering” functions of the feed in *Feed* have their prototypes in modern internet technology. What might the author be trying to get across by having these functions occur directly within people’s brains?
2. What would be the benefits and drawbacks of that kind of system?
3. Is there anything like the “lesions” in today’s culture?
4. Why do you think the author chose the names he did – Titus, Link, Violet and so on – for his characters? What might their names say about the world they live in?
5. Surrounding the story of Titus and his friends are hints of various international events. Why doesn’t Titus seem to be aware of them?
6. Do Titus’s actions (and non-actions) in his relationship with Violet strike you as realistic? How do you think you would act if you were in his place?
7. In what way does Titus’s concept of love differ from Violet’s?
8. In a consumerist society, once things have outlived their usefulness, they tend to be discarded. How might this attitude affect the way people interact with one another? How might it affect the way they think of the past?
9. Over the course of the book, Violet accuses many people of many things. But are there times when you felt that she, herself, was in the wrong?
10. Violet lists all the things she wants to do before she dies. Do you share any items on the list? What can we learn about her from her list? And what could someone learn about you from YOUR list?

11.How does Violet benefit from resisting the feed? What price does she pay?

12.The author dedicates the book “to those who resist the feed.” What does he mean by this? What is “the feed,” in a real-life context, and how can it be resisted? What are the benefits and drawbacks of doing so? In what ways do you “resist the feed”?

13. A UTOPIAN novel depicts the perfect world order. A DYSTOPIAN novel is the opposite – it depicts a future world in which everything has gone wrong (such as George Orwell’s 1984, or Aldous Huxley’s Brave New World– or movies like the Mad Max series). The third section of Feed is entitled “Utopia.” Why might that be? Is this novel utopian or dystopian?

14. Is the scenario depicted in Feed the way you see our world going? If you were to write a dystopian novel, what would be the major problem with the future, based on what you see around you now?

15. What do you think could be done to stop our world from becoming like the world in Feed? Would you WANT to stop the world from becoming that way?

(Questions issued by publisher)

