



***The Bridge* – Jane Higgins**

Published by The Text Publishing Company, RRP \$25.99

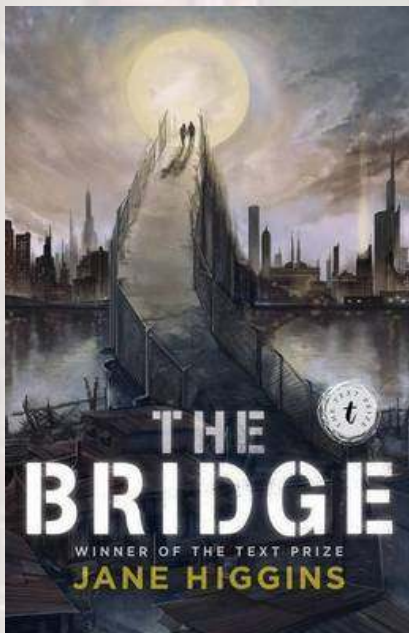
In a world where war is normal and the bridges are gated to separate the hostiles of the Southside from the residents in Cityside, Nik attends a well known boarding school. A school where the most wanted career path is to be chosen by the Internal Security and Intelligence Services, the power behind the war that continues between the cities.

But when the agents from ISIS come to recruit the students, Nik is shocked when he isn't chosen to join the team. There must be an explanation, but no one will talk about it. Then the school is bombed and the hostiles fight to take over take the bridges and win. The hostiles, who are out for revenge, kidnap 10 year old Sol. Nik, with Sol's sister Fyffe, goes in search of Sol. They sneak over the bridge and immerse themselves in Southside society, blending in well, until they are caught by the ISIS.

The Bridge is a gritty dystopian novel set in a world where fighting for what you think is right may cost you your life. Extremely well written, with a storyline that hooks you into it straight away. With a strong, gusty male protagonist this novel is a fabulous read for those 'hard to reach' teenage boys. But it also has an underlying love interest that will suit a female reader too. The ending indicates that there may be another book coming.

Highly recommended for teens over 13 years.

Reviewed by Amanda-Jane McFadden RLIANZA, Children and Teenager's Librarian, Tauranga City Libraries.



Promoting the enjoyment of children's literature.