



# Readers' Favorite® Book Reviews and Award Contest

## Book Review Mini-Critique

Below you will find ratings (scale of 1-5) with general descriptions for the major parts of your book followed by your Readers' Favorite review. Although this is just a Mini-Critique, we hope it will give you an insight into how readers may view the different components of your book.

These are the opinions of your reviewer, and although they are not a literary professional, they are an avid reader of books just like yours.

**Title:** Hallelujah

**Author:** BJ Taylor

**Genre:** Fiction - LGBTQ



**Appearance:** The appearance of a book can make a significant impact on the experience of a reader, whose enjoyment is often enhanced by an enticing cover, an intriguing table of contents, interesting chapter headings, and when possible, eye-catching illustrations.

**5**

**Plot:** The characters of a book should be well defined with strengths and flaws, and while they do not have to be likable, the reader does have to be able to form a connection with them. The tone should be consistent, the theme should be clear, and the plot should be original or told from a unique perspective. For informative books -- those without plot and characters--this rating refers primarily to your concept and how well you presented it.

**5**

**Development:** Development refers to how effectively you told your story or discussed your topic. The dialogue should be realistic, the descriptions should be vivid, and the material should be concise and coherent. Organization is also a key factor, especially for informative books -- those without plot and characters. The order in which you tell your story or explain your topic and how smoothly it flows can have a huge impact on the reader's understanding and enjoyment of the material.

**5**

**Formatting:** Formatting is the single most overlooked area by authors. The way in which you describe scenes, display dialogue, and shift point of view can make or break your story. In addition, excessive grammatical errors and typos can give your book an amateurish feel and even put off readers completely.

**5**

**Marketability:** Marketability refers to how effectively you wrote your book for your target audience. Authors may include content that is above or below the understanding of their target reader, or include concepts, opinions or language that can accidentally confuse or alienate some readers. Although by its nature this rating is very subjective, a very low rating here and poor reviews may indicate an issue with your book in this area.

**5**

**Overall Opinion:** The overall starred rating takes into account all these elements and describes the overall reading experience of your reviewer. This is the official Readers' Favorite review rating for your book.

**5**

**Review:**

Reviewed by Bernadette Longu for Readers' Favorite

In Hallelujah: Book 1 of the Borderland Mysteries, author B.J. Taylor has covered an area of America that borders on Mexico where the world is only shown the worst of the worst situations and not the real people who actually live there with their desires, dreams, fears, and love. B.J. Taylor brings to life the scenery around El Paso near the Sierra Blanca in an exciting drama murder mystery with a hint of romance. This story starts in mid-January 2019 with an accident in which one person is killed. The main characters are introduced: Gabriella Zamora, the leader of the investigation group, along with Alex Ranslow and Samuel De Silva, with each member bringing their own skills to the team. The other characters are the dead person and the driver of the car and they are the most relevant to the story.

When this team starts their investigation into the accident, roadblocks are thrown in their way, but they brush these off and carry on with what they have to do. B.J. Taylor catches your attention from the first page of the book to the last and leaves you wanting to know more about the characters and their lives. You get just enough information to keep you reading from cover to cover. It is about normal people and how they have to fight for their place in this world where everything is inclined to be black and white and anyone who is different is of no consequence. It is definitely a book that is well worth reading from cover to cover and the reader will find that they lose themselves in the story and forget all about space and time. Hallelujah: Book 1 of the Borderland Mysteries is very well-written and was a joy and delightful experience to read. Thank you for this wonderful addition to the world of mystery novels.