

# Podcast Transcript - Book Sharks: Born a Crime

## Introduction (00:00 - 00:15)

Welcome to our podcast the Book Sharks. My name is Sebastian and today these two wonderful people are with me. Please welcome Niklas and Alex who are the most active members of our club. Hey, it's a pleasure to be here. Hello, my name is Alex. Thanks for being here.

## Book Overview (00:16 - 00:38)

In this episode we speak and discuss the novel Born a Crime written by Trevor Noah. The book deals with the life of Trevor Noah in general. The book addresses problems in South Africa such as racism, poverty, and apartheid. For the people who don't know what apartheid is: it's a political system that separates people into groups based on their race.

## Book Structure (00:39 - 01:14)

The book has three parts. The first part has eight chapters, the second part has six, and the third part has four. The first part is especially about the daily problems and dangers for a colored person and about his family and other relationships. In the second part Trevor speaks about his life in school and how important your skin color or the language you speak is. The third and last part of the novel is about how Trevor grows up from a youthful teenager into a young man and how his mother was shot by her previous husband two times. She was shot in her leg and her head but miraculously survived.

## First Impressions (01:15 - 01:55)

Both of you read the book. What was your first impression when you read it? My first impression of the novel was I was a little bit impressed because the life there is so difficult compared to ours. Since I read his way of life in South Africa, I think so much about it and couldn't stop reading the book. At first, I thought the book was more about the historical events of apartheid, but as I read further, I was surprised by the deep characters and the interesting story.

## Favorite Parts (01:56 - 02:54)

What was your favorite moment in the novel or the most interesting character for you? For me, the ending was very stunning because it showed how deep the relationship between Trevor and his mom is. I also found it really emotional. A quote: 'He blessed me with the Sun.' Even at the moment of death, she stayed true to her religion and her son. My favorite character is Patricia Noah, Trevor's mother, because she's one of the most interesting characters in the novel in my opinion and has a big role in Trevor's life. I like that she is

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strong and independent and never gave up trying to make the life of her family better. Every time there was an injustice, she tried to overcome it.

## Key Messages (02:55 - 03:21)

What do you think is the best message of the novel? I think the message is how important your mother is and that you always have a chance to change your life, no matter where you're from. For me, the message is that you should never give up, even if you have the worst conditions, because that's what Trevor did.

## Recommendation (03:22 - 04:03)

Would you recommend the book or do you think it's a waste of time? Yes, of course. I recommend the book. It's not only interesting to read, but also very informative. You learn something about apartheid or the life in South Africa as a black person. I would definitely recommend it to young people who are in the same situation as Trevor because I think it gives them a spark of hope. Yes, I would also recommend Born a Crime because it's an inspiring story that shows you should never give up. Thank you for listening and we hope to see you next time on Book Sharks.

*~ This podcast was brought to you by Sebastian, together with Niklas and Alex.*