

my biology is not your costume

My Biology Is Not Your Costume: Understanding Respect and Identity

my biology is not your costume—these words carry a powerful message about respect, identity, and the boundaries we must honor when it comes to personal and biological characteristics. In recent years, discussions about cultural appropriation, gender identity, and biological realities have gained prominence, and this phrase has become a rallying cry against the trivialization and misuse of people's lived experiences. But what does it truly mean to say "my biology is not your costume," and why is it so important in today's society? Let's dive deeper into this topic, exploring the intersection of biology, identity, and respect.

What Does "My Biology Is Not Your Costume" Mean?

At its core, saying "my biology is not your costume" is a way to assert that a person's biological traits—such as their sex characteristics, gender identity, or cultural markers linked to biology—should not be mimicked, mocked, or appropriated for entertainment or aesthetic purposes. It highlights the need to recognize and respect the complexity and significance of biology, rather than reducing it to a costume or a trend.

For example, some individuals may feel offended or harmed when others dress up as transgender people, women, or marginalized groups in a way that mocks or trivializes their biological experiences. The phrase acts as a boundary, emphasizing that biology is deeply personal and not a prop for someone else's amusement.

The Social and Cultural Implications

The phrase "my biology is not your costume" emerges from broader conversations about cultural sensitivity, identity politics, and social justice. It intersects with issues such as:

Cultural Appropriation vs. Appreciation

Cultural appropriation occurs when elements of a marginalized culture are taken out of context and used by others—often those in dominant groups—in ways that are disrespectful or exploitative. Similarly, when biological traits associated with certain communities are mimicked as costumes, it can feel like a form of appropriation that erases the lived realities behind those traits.

Gender Identity and Respect

Transgender and non-binary individuals often confront misunderstandings and

stereotypes about their biology and identity. When someone dresses up as a transgender person or adopts gender expressions without understanding or respect, it can reinforce harmful stereotypes and invalidate authentic experiences. "My biology is not your costume" is a call to honor the dignity and complexity of gender beyond superficial appearances.

Body Autonomy and Personal Boundaries

Respecting biology as something more than a costume also ties into broader themes of body autonomy. Just as we would not tolerate someone invading our physical space without consent, appropriating or mocking biological traits is a violation of personal and communal boundaries.

Why Treating Biology as a Costume Is Problematic

When biology is reduced to a costume, several issues arise that affect individuals and communities:

Erasure of Real Experiences

Dressing up as a marginalized identity or biological trait for fun can erase the struggles, discrimination, and unique challenges faced by those who live with those traits every day. It trivializes their reality and turns it into a spectacle.

Perpetuation of Stereotypes

Costumes often rely on stereotypes—whether about gender, race, or biology. This perpetuates misunderstandings and biases that contribute to social stigma and exclusion.

Emotional Harm and Alienation

For many, seeing their biology turned into a costume can feel like an attack on their identity, leading to feelings of alienation, hurt, and invisibility.

How to Show Respect: Tips for Navigating Identity and Biology Sensitively

Understanding that "my biology is not your costume" is a step toward more respectful interactions. Here are some practical ways to honor this principle:

Educate Yourself

Take the time to learn about different identities, biological realities, and the meanings behind certain expressions. Understanding reduces the likelihood of accidental offense.

Avoid Stereotypical Costumes

If a costume relies on exaggerating or mocking biological traits or identities, it's best to rethink it. Instead, opt for costumes that are creative without being harmful.

Listen to Affected Communities

When members of specific communities express discomfort or offense, listen and respect their feelings. They are the experts on their own experiences.

Celebrate Diversity Authentically

Celebrate differences through genuine appreciation rather than mimicry. Support causes and voices from marginalized groups rather than appropriating their identities.

The Role of Media and Society in Shaping Perceptions

Media portrayals play a significant role in either reinforcing or challenging the idea that biology can be turned into a costume. When media responsibly represents diverse biological and gender identities, it fosters understanding and respect.

Conversely, when media trivializes or stereotypes these identities, it contributes to the perception that biology is something to be played with. Society must encourage media literacy and critical consumption to combat these harmful narratives.

Moving Forward: Embracing Respect and Authenticity

The phrase "my biology is not your costume" is more than just a statement—it's a call for empathy and respect. It reminds us to honor the depth and complexity of human biology and identity, resisting the urge to reduce others to mere appearances or trends.

By embracing this mindset, we not only foster more inclusive and understanding communities but also pave the way for authentic connections

that celebrate the rich tapestry of human experience without exploitation.

Ultimately, respect for biology and identity is about recognizing each person's humanity and the stories behind what might otherwise be seen as "just a costume."

Frequently Asked Questions

What does the phrase 'my biology is not your costume' mean?

The phrase means that someone's biological or physical characteristics, such as race, gender, or disability, should not be appropriated or used as a costume for entertainment or Halloween. It emphasizes respect for personal identity and experiences.

Why is 'my biology is not your costume' an important message?

It is important because it promotes respect for people's identities and discourages cultural appropriation or insensitivity, which can perpetuate stereotypes and cause harm.

Can dressing up as another biological identity be considered offensive?

Yes, dressing up as another biological identity, especially if it involves stereotyping or mocking, can be offensive and disrespectful to the people who actually belong to that identity.

How does 'my biology is not your costume' relate to cultural sensitivity?

The phrase highlights the importance of cultural sensitivity by reminding people not to appropriate or trivialize aspects of someone's identity, which can be deeply personal and tied to their lived experiences.

What are some examples of costumes that might violate the 'my biology is not your costume' principle?

Examples include dressing up as a person of a different race using makeup to alter skin color (blackface), mimicking disabilities, or adopting cultural attire without understanding or respect.

How can one choose Halloween costumes respectfully?

Choose costumes that do not rely on stereotypes, do not appropriate cultures or identities, and are inclusive and considerate of others' feelings and experiences.

Is it acceptable to dress up as a character from another gender?

Cross-gender costumes can be acceptable if done respectfully and without mocking or reinforcing harmful stereotypes. The key is to be sensitive and avoid offensive portrayals.

What impact does ignoring 'my biology is not your costume' have on marginalized communities?

Ignoring this message can perpetuate discrimination, reinforce stereotypes, and contribute to feelings of marginalization and disrespect among those communities.

How can educators teach about the importance of 'my biology is not your costume'?

Educators can facilitate discussions on identity, respect, and cultural appropriation, and encourage empathy by sharing personal stories and highlighting the impact of insensitive costumes.

Are there campaigns or movements promoting 'my biology is not your costume'?

Yes, various social media campaigns, advocacy groups, and organizations promote this message to raise awareness about cultural sensitivity and respect for people's identities during costume events.

Additional Resources

****My Biology Is Not Your Costume: Understanding Respect, Identity, and Cultural Sensitivity****

my biology is not your costume – a phrase that has gained significant traction in recent years amidst ongoing conversations about cultural appropriation, gender identity, and bodily autonomy. This statement succinctly captures a complex dialogue about respect for individual identity, the boundaries of cultural expression, and the ethical implications of how we engage with others' lived experiences. As society becomes increasingly aware of issues related to identity and representation, it is vital to explore what this phrase means, why it resonates so deeply, and how it challenges us to rethink our perceptions and behaviors.

The Significance of “My Biology Is Not Your Costume” in Contemporary Discourse

At its core, the phrase “my biology is not your costume” confronts the notion of reducing someone's physical characteristics or identity markers to mere aesthetic choices for others to don or discard at will. Traditionally, costumes have been a part of festivities and cultural celebrations, allowing people to embody characters or personas temporarily. However, when

biology—referring to innate physical traits such as sex characteristics, gender identity, or ethnicity—is treated as a costume, it raises critical ethical and social questions.

The phrase serves as a rebuttal against the commodification and trivialization of identity, particularly in contexts where marginalized groups face historical and systemic discrimination. It underscores the lived realities behind those biological traits, which often involve struggles for recognition, rights, and dignity. For instance, the experience of transgender individuals or people of specific racial backgrounds cannot be authentically replicated or understood by simply “dressing up” as them.

Cultural Appropriation vs. Cultural Appreciation

One of the most relevant contexts where “my biology is not your costume” applies is in conversations about cultural appropriation. Cultural appropriation occurs when elements of a minority or marginalized culture—such as clothing, hairstyles, or religious symbols—are adopted by members of a dominant culture without permission, understanding, or respect. This often leads to misrepresentation and perpetuation of stereotypes.

In cases where biological or identity features are mimicked superficially—such as non-Black individuals wearing Black hairstyles or non-Indigenous people donning traditional regalia—the consequences go beyond mere fashion. These acts can erase the struggles associated with those identities, reduce rich cultures to exotic aesthetics, and reinforce power imbalances.

On the other hand, cultural appreciation involves respectful engagement, learning, and honoring the significance of cultural expressions. The phrase “my biology is not your costume” implicitly challenges individuals to reflect on their motivations and approach toward cultural elements linked to identity.

Gender Identity and the Boundaries of Expression

The phrase also resonates profoundly within the dialogue surrounding gender identity. For transgender and non-binary communities, biology often intersects with deeply personal and complex journeys of self-acceptance and societal recognition. When others treat these identities as costumes—such as during Halloween or themed parties—it can be deeply hurtful and invalidating.

Research shows that transgender individuals face disproportionately high rates of discrimination and violence, making the trivialization of their identities particularly harmful. Wearing a “transgender costume” or mocking gender variance can perpetuate stigma and hinder progress toward acceptance.

Moreover, the conversation extends to the difference between expression and appropriation. While self-expression allows people to explore and affirm their identities authentically, costume-like adoption of gendered traits without understanding can erase the struggles inherent in those identities.

Biology, Identity, and the Role of Media

Media representation plays a pivotal role in shaping public understanding of biology and identity. Misrepresentation or stereotyping in films, television, and social media often results in the flattening of complex identities into caricatures or costumes. This phenomenon reinforces the idea that identity can be donned temporarily rather than respected as an integral part of a person's life.

For example, casting cisgender actors in transgender roles or trivializing racial identities in entertainment contributes to the "costume" effect, where identity is performative rather than authentic. This practice not only diminishes opportunities for marginalized actors but also perpetuates misconceptions and erases authentic voices.

The phrase "my biology is not your costume" calls upon creators, consumers, and cultural participants to approach representation with nuance, respect, and responsibility.

Social Implications and Ethical Considerations

The social implications of treating biology as a costume are far-reaching, touching on issues of power, privilege, and ethics. When dominant groups appropriate biological or identity markers from marginalized communities, it can reinforce existing hierarchies and perpetuate systemic inequities.

- **Power Dynamics:** Appropriation often reflects unbalanced power relations, where dominant groups can pick and choose elements of identity without facing the discrimination that originates from those traits.
- **Erasure of Experience:** Reducing identity to a costume can invalidate the lived experiences and struggles tied to those identities, leading to cultural and emotional harm.
- **Impact on Mental Health:** Marginalized individuals may experience distress and alienation when their biology or identity is trivialized or mocked.

Ethically, the phrase invites introspection on the responsibility individuals and societies bear in honoring the integrity of others' identities. It challenges the notion that all forms of expression are equally acceptable and encourages informed, empathetic engagement with identity-related issues.

How to Respect Biology and Identity Without Appropriation

Navigating identity and biology respectfully requires awareness, sensitivity, and education. Here are some guiding principles:

1. **Educate Yourself:** Learn about the histories, cultures, and experiences

behind the identities you encounter.

2. **Avoid Stereotyping:** Resist the urge to reduce complex identities to simplistic or exaggerated traits.
3. **Seek Permission:** When engaging with cultural elements, seek guidance from community members or representatives.
4. **Amplify Voices:** Support and uplift individuals from marginalized groups instead of speaking over them.
5. **Reflect on Intent and Impact:** Consider how your actions may affect others, regardless of your intentions.

By following these steps, individuals can contribute to a culture that values authenticity and respect over superficial appropriation.

Broader Reflections on Identity and Society

The phrase “my biology is not your costume” also prompts broader reflections on how society understands and values identity. Biology, while significant, is only one aspect of a person’s multifaceted identity. Culture, personal experience, and self-identification all play essential roles in shaping who we are.

In a world that increasingly embraces diversity and inclusion, the challenge lies in balancing freedom of expression with respect for individual dignity. This phrase serves as a reminder that some aspects of identity are deeply personal and should not be trivialized or exploited.

In essence, it asks society to move beyond surface-level engagement and toward genuine understanding and solidarity with those whose identities differ from our own.

As conversations about identity continue to evolve, “my biology is not your costume” remains a powerful call to action—one that urges us to confront uncomfortable truths, dismantle harmful practices, and foster a culture of empathy and respect.

[My Biology Is Not Your Costume](#)

my biology is not your costume: They Promised Me the Gun Wasn't Loaded James Alan Gardner, 2018-11-06 Award-winning author James Alan Gardner returns to the superheroic fantasy world of All Those Explosions Were Someone Else's Fault with They Promised Me The Gun Wasn't Loaded. Only days have passed since a freak accident granted four college students superhuman powers. Now Jools and her friends (who haven’t even picked out a name for their superhero team yet) get caught up in the hunt for a Mad Genius’s misplaced super-weapon. But when Jools falls in with a modern-day Robin Hood and his band of super-powered Merry Men, she finds it hard to sort out the Good Guys from the Bad Guys—and to figure out which side she truly belongs on. Especially since nobody knows exactly what the Gun does At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold

without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

my biology is not your costume: *Witch Doctor: The Resuscitation #1 One Shot* Brandon Seifert, 2011-12-28 You wake up in a bathtub of ice with a surgical incision on your side--but the hospital says you've still got two kidneys! Where do you go for a second opinion? Where else but Dr. Vincent Morrow, the Witch Doctor! Summer's medical horror smash hit returns with a tale of black magic and organ-swapping. And it's a great jumping-on point for new readers, so don't miss out - ask your retailer to preorder a copy for you! 'If you're not checking out WITCH DOCTOR, you need to do so, STAT!' - Ain't It Cool News.

my biology is not your costume: *Weekly World News*, 2002-01-01 Rooted in the creative success of over 30 years of supermarket tabloid publishing, the Weekly World News has been the world's only reliable news source since 1979. The online hub www.weeklyworldnews.com is a leading entertainment news site.

my biology is not your costume: *Tangleroot* Kalela Williams, 2024-10-15 The acclaimed INDIES INTRODUCE and INDIE NEXT debut YA novel about blood and family that is both history and mystery, perfect for fans of Angeline Boulley and Jesmyn Ward. □ A gripping and heartbreaking debut. -- Kirkus Reviews, starred review Noni Reid has grown up in the shadow of her mother, Dr. Radiance Castine, renowned scholar of Black literature, who is alarmingly perfect at just about everything. When Dr. Castine takes a job as the president of the prestigious Stonepost College in rural Virginia, Noni is forced to leave her New England home and, most importantly, a prime internship and her friends. She and her mother move into the “big house” on Tangleroot Plantation. Tangleroot was built by one of Noni’s ancestors, an enslaved man named Cuffee Fortune—who Dr. Castine believes was also the original founder of Stonepost College, and that the school was originally formed for Black students. Dr. Castine spends much of her time trying to piece together enough undeniable truth in order to change the name of the school in Cuffee’s honor—and to force the university to reckon with its own racist past. Meanwhile, Noni hates everything about her new home, but finds herself morbidly fascinated by the white, slaveholding family who once lived in it. Slowly, she begins to unpeel the layers of sinister history that envelop her Virginia town, her mother’s workplace, her ancestry—and her life story as she knew it. Through it all, she must navigate the ancient prejudices of the citizens in her small town, and ultimately, she finds herself both affirming her mother’s position and her own—but also discovering a secret that changes everything.

my biology is not your costume: *Hollyberry Homicide* Sharon Farrow, 2020-09-29 A cold wind is blowing off Lake Michigan, and murder is scaring the dickens out of everyone . . . Considering her name, Marlee Jacob is an obvious choice for the role of Jacob Marley in Oriole Point’s production of *A Christmas Carol*. It’s just sad that the role has opened up because of the death of the elderly actor who’d originally been cast. But Marlee, the proprietor of The Berry Basket, will do her best to keep spirits high—that is, until clues start mounting that there’s danger behind the scenes. There are accidents on set, the tree in the village square topples over, and worst of all, a body is found with a sprig of holly draped over it. If Marlee can’t wrap up the case, she may not have a berry merry Christmas . . . Includes Berry Recipes!

my biology is not your costume: *The Very Best of Tad Williams* Tad Williams, 2014-04-21 This career retrospective from beloved author Tad Williams (*Otherland*; *Tailchaser's Song*; *Shadowplay*) demonstrates why he is one of fantasy's most enduring icons. *The Very Best of Tad Williams* collects Williams' finest work in multiple genres, including epic fantasy, urban fantasy, and YA. These superlative tales, many of which were previously available only in limited editions, introduce dragons, wizards, assassins, heroes, and fools — even a few cyberpunks and super-soldiers. Readers only familiar with Williams' internationally bestselling novels and series will be delighted that in his short fiction he explores myriad new possibilities and adventures. Here are the stories that showcase the exhilarating breadth of Williams’ imagination, hearkening back to such classic fantasists as J. R. R. Tolkien, Ray Bradbury, Peter S. Beagle, and beyond.

my biology is not your costume: *Confessions of Brother Eli* Joseph Di Prisco, 2000 Brother Eli

is mountain of a man, bald of his free will, in the thrall of a gargantuan appetite. His robe is stained, his classes are demanding, his attitude cynical, and his breath sour. He smokes, drinks, fights against the forces of darkness -- parents and school administrators. He does not lack for opponents in the Church, his family, the student body, or his order -- the Most Holy Family. Now, even that war in Viet Nam is coming close to home and school. Enter two semi-mysterious strangers to Catholic Prep. One is a novice who is hysterically embraced by students and Brothers alike. Transfer student Nadette Nevers is shunned and reviled by classmates, but esteemed by Brother Eli for her eccentricity and independence. Along with a menagerie of quirky characters, Brother Eli journeys through matters of faith, truths, lies, money, envy and power, sexuality and food.

my biology is not your costume: Holding Worlds Together: Ethnographies of Knowing and Belonging, Studies of globalization tend to foreground movements, mobilities or flows, while structures that remain stable and unchanged are often ignored. This volume foregrounds the latter. Discarding the term globalization for analytic purposes, this volume suggests that the significance of globalizing processes is best understood as an experiential, imaginary and epistemological dimension in people's lives. The authors explore how meaningful relations are made when the socially local is not necessarily the geographically near and how connections are made and unmade that reach beyond the specificity of time and place. Finally, this volume is about the ways knowledge and received wisdom are challenged and recast through processes of re-scaling, and how the understanding of locality and identity are transformed as a result.

my biology is not your costume: The Playboy's Princess Joy Fulcher, 2014-11-25 What do a Hollywood playboy and a Disney princess have in common? Not a lot, but they can fake it. Jade Pratt is living a tough life, surviving paycheck to paycheck by working at Disneyland. She'd like nothing more than to be swept off her feet by her own Prince Charming. Drew Malik is living what appears to be a charmed life: He's the son of a famous actor and has money, women...anything he could want. But he's burning out in a life filled with booze and one night stands. When he finds out his trust fund is blocked until he either turns thirty or gets married, his friends plot to rescue him by placing an ad in the paper to find him a bride -- fast. When Jade answers the ad, the pair meet up and agree to an arrangement that will solve both their problems. But when their fake marriage elicits real feelings and real problems, they're both forced to re-evaluate their deal. Happily ever after was never the intention...but what if it's their destiny?

my biology is not your costume: The Complete McCabe & Cody - Volume 1 Dan Andriacco, 2023-10-19 Mystery writer, magician, Sherlockian, and sleuth-at-large... very large - that's Sebastian Mac McCabe. This collection introduces the series of light-hearted but mysterious adventures of Mac and his brother-in-law, Jeff Cody, an admiring but by no means uncritical 'Watson' as they uncover small-town secrets to solve murders that would stump Sherlock Holmes himself. Three original novels are included in this collection, being the award-winning No Police Like Holmes, its follow-up Holmes Sweet Holmes, and the third book in the series, The 1895 Murder.

my biology is not your costume: Seven Come Eleven Charles Deemer, 1999-12 In this collection of his stories and plays, Charles Deemer writes of characters typically struggling with changing values in an uncertain world: Todd in The Half-Life Conspiracy, a playwright who comes to the premiere of his one-act play only to discover that it is being directed by his ex-wife, who left him for another woman (the very subject of his bitter one-act play). Thomas in Famililly, who braces to tell his traditional, dying father that he will be raising his son not with his wife but with his male soul mate. Lester in The Man Who Shot Elvis, who many years after the fact is still dealing with a sense of loss from when black rhythm-n-blues turned into white rock-n-roll. Included is this anthology: Famililly which won the 1997 Crossing Borders international new play competition; The Idaho Jacket which was selected as a Roll of Honor story in Best American Short Stories 1974; and Christmas at the Juniper Tavern, an ACE award winner for its presentation on public television and called an Oregon classic by Northwest Magazine. Praise for the writing of Charles Deemer: One of Oregon's most precious natural resources. —Jonathan Nicholas, The Oregonian Oregon's most important playwright. —Paul Pinterich, Northwest [Deemer] asks questions about the nature of people's lives,

their relationships and their values when something out there forces change. —Kathleen L. Reyes, *Stepping Out Northwest*

my biology is not your costume: Confessions of Super Mom Melanie Lynne Hauser, 2006-08-01 According to my thirteen-year-old son, every superhero has an origin. My origin is a little embarrassing. I wasn't put into a rocket and sent to Earth by my parents. I wasn't bitten by a radioactive spider. No, I was merely the innocent victim of a Horrible Swiffer Accident.... Strange things are happening to divorced mother of two Birdie Lee since the Horrible Swiffer Accident. She can sense danger (for example, a carload of speeding teenagers not wearing their seat belts) and spring into action with superhuman speed. She can find out what her daughter is up to on the Internet without even having to snoop. And she's got cleaning powers ordinary women can only dream of.... Warm, witty, and full of heart, *Confessions of Super Mom* is the tale of a woman who dares to take a stand against everything from stubborn stains to smug exs to corporate CEOs—and winds up defeating evil in some very unexpected ways.

my biology is not your costume: The London Journal: and Weekly Record of Literature, Science, and Art, 1877

my biology is not your costume: T.P.'s Weekly, 1908

my biology is not your costume: God on Trial Ricky Firman, 2025-09-04 When an atheist dies, he's dragged before the Big Three—Moses, Jesus, and Muhammad—for the ultimate cross-examination. In a cosmic courtroom that feels part sacred, part bureaucratic, he must defend his disbelief, confess his contradictions, and face questions that refuse easy answers. Darkly comic and philosophically sharp, *God on Trial* is not about winning or losing the case against God—it's about what it means to be human when eternity demands you take the stand.

my biology is not your costume: Heart of the Matter Emily Giffin, 2010-05-11 Giffin excels at creating complex characters and stories that ask us to explore what we really want from our lives.--Atlanta Journal-Constitution Tessa Russo is the mother of two young children and the wife of a renowned pediatric surgeon. Despite her own mother's warnings, Tessa has recently given up her career to focus on her family and the pursuit of domestic happiness. From the outside, she seems destined to live a charmed life. Valerie Anderson is an attorney and single mother to six-year-old Charlie--a boy who has never known his father. After too many disappointments, she has given up on romance--and even to some degree, friendships--believing that it is always safer not to expect too much. Although both women live in the same Boston suburb, the two have relatively little in common aside from a fierce love for their children. But one night, a tragic accident causes their lives to converge in ways no one could have imagined. In alternating, pitch-perfect points of view, Emily Giffin's *Heart of the Matter* creates a moving, luminous story of good people caught in untenable circumstances. Each being tested in ways they never thought possible. Each questioning everything they once believed. And each ultimately discovering what truly matters most.

my biology is not your costume: Only Fools and Stories David Jason, 2017-10-05 *** The Hilarious Number One Sunday Times Bestseller! *** The follow-up autobiography to one of Britain's best loved actors and national treasures *As seen in David and Jay's Touring Toolshed on BBC Two* In his first book David Jason told us about himself from his early years training as an electrician through to making it as one of Britain's greatest actors. This autumn, in a follow up autobiography, he tells us about the many other lives he has lived - his characters. From Del Boy to Granville, Pop Larkin to Frost, he takes us behind the scenes and under the skins of some of the best loved acts of his career. And in the process he reflects on how those characters changed his life too. The result told with his characteristic charm and wit is both funny and poignant, honest and heart warming.

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my biology is not your costume: My Fair Monster Adrienne Rivera, 2025-08-19 As the reigning Miss Teen Indiana, seventeen-year-old Corie Nielson has looks, charm, and her family's formalwear boutique's sponsorship. But her real dream is to use that success to become a horror movie scream queen. Except for one small complication: Corie is struggling with ADHD without even

realizing it. After missing yet another pageant commitment puts her on shaky ground with her coach, Corie wonders how she can possibly live up to everyone's expectations, including her own. When a regional horror host announces a monster costume contest where first place gets a guest appearance on the show featuring the winner's choice movie and cash prize, Corie knows she's found a way to prove what she's capable of. All she has to do is convince a grumpy special effects makeup artist, Everett Robbins, to partner up and turn her into a pageant-worthy monster. But when the contest distracts her from her pageant obligations, Corie must decide which matters more: pageants—and her promises to her family—or achieving her horror movie dreams?

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