

Ness, Patrick. **The Knife of Never Letting Go** p. 479

*Recommended for Grades 7-12*  
*Science Fiction*

*The Knife of Never Letting Go* by Patrick Ness is about a boy named Todd Hewitt. He is one month away from turning thirteen, which is the day he becomes a man. He is the last boy in a town called Prentisstown, where he lives. In Prentisstown, a germ called the "Noise" has killed all the women and made it possible for all the remaining men, boys and animals to hear each other's thoughts. There is nowhere to go where your thoughts are your own, until Todd happens upon a place of total silence. Throughout the story, Todd is chased by a preacher named Aaron, the mayor of Prentisstown, and others as they try to stop him from finding out the truth about the Germ and Prentisstown.

Patrick Ness is a realistic writer. He writes the book as if the character of Todd is telling the story. His manner of writing in this book is that of an uneducated twelve year old which takes getting used to in the beginning, but you adapt very quickly to his writing style as the book goes on. His characters are well thought out and realistic. The story itself is thrilling and made me want to keep reading until it was done. I would recommend this book to anyone who likes to read thrilling science fiction stories that keep you on the edge of your seat. This is an excellent book for teenagers to read. I think that it is too advanced for younger readers.

*By Carlo*