They Both Die at the End Adam Silvera Reviewed by: Anika 16 Star Teen Book Reviewer of Be the Star You Are! Charity www.bethestaryouare.org

Death Cast has called Mateo and Rufus in New York to tell them that they will die today. Mateo has spent his life in fear of every risk, which is why he keeps to himself much of the time. He's only ever known his dad and his only friend Lidia. Rufus though, doesn't have a family, but he's got the Plutos. When they were called they both find themselves with no one to talk to. Fortunately, there's an app called Last Friends for Deckers like Mateo and Rufus to find friends to spend their remaining time with. Through Last Friends, Mateo and Rufus find each other and live their last day together to the fullest.

They Both Died at the End taught me so many important life lessons. We all need to live every day to the fullest because we'll never know if it's our last. And that even the smallest acts of kindness can have a big impact. I really enjoyed the concept of the story, that everyone gets a heads up on the day of their death. I also really liked the different perspectives shown in the story. Every character had a role in the story that made them valuable. Their relationships, emotions, and actions all had an impact and tugged at my heartstrings.

Despite this, I did have a hard time enjoying this book because of its slow progression of the story. It made me feel like the story wasn't executed too well. Other things to look out for in this book are violence and bad/mature language. The story also raises questions about mortality that readers may find offensive or sensitive. But all in all, I recommend this book for anyone 14 years or older. This would make a great gift for anyone who needs a little hope, even in the darkest times.

## **Recommended Titles:**

The Sun is Also a Star by Nicola Yoon The Book Thief by Markus Zusak Lord of the Flies by William Golding