

Title: Nemesis (Project Nemesis # 1)

Author: Brendan Reichs

Reviewed by: Ria Chhabra, 13

Star Teen Book Reviewer of Be the Star You Are! Charity

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Nemesis by Brendan Reichs was an amazing, adventure novel, filled with unexpected twists! Ever since Melinda (Min) Wilder was 8, she has been murdered on every second birthday. It's always the same man with black clothes and reflective sunglasses who finds her - no matter where she's hidden - and kills her. But, after each "death" she awakes hours later in a clearing near her trailer park in Idaho perfectly fine, unhurt. Meanwhile, Noah Livingston is haunted by a strange man as well - a symptom he believes he suffers from due to a certain disorder. When unexpected vehicles cross into a forbidden area of Min and Noah's valley and more suspicious acts are revealed, the two teens begin to realize that nothing is as it seems. As they find their lives tangled together at the heart of a conspiracy, Min and Noah must work together to discover the truth and save their entire sophomore class.

Nemesis was a fast paced novel that launches off with action and adventure right from the start! From break-ins to murders, the book carries that beginning excitement throughout the story with breathtaking events that leave the reader's heart racing. With vivid details and a storyline told in first person, each experience was even more intense and thrilling! Additionally, unlike some Young Adult books where an adventure occurs and readers are left wondering when the next one will take place, the action and clues in Nemesis are well spaced. Finally, when the tension, thrill and suspense are at their peak, everything comes together in an epic, explosive conclusion with deceit, betrayal and a stunning cliff hanger.

My favourite aspect of the book was Noah's character. As the son of a wealthy ski chalet owner in Fire Lake, Noah lived in a mansion, surrounded by new stepmothers and nannies. But, his "perfect," rich life, wasn't that perfect after all. I loved how pieces of Noah's situation were slowly revealed, step by step - from a cruel, unsupportive father to his fragile mental state. As the book switched to Noah's perspective and more aspects of his life came to light, Reichs continued to build an even deeper flawed, insecure character that was simply so fascinating! This book was an amazing thriller and I would definitely recommend it to anyone 13+ who enjoys mystery and adventure.

Recommended Books:

Contagion (Contagion #1) by Erin Bowman

Aurora Rising (Aurora Cycle #1) by Amie Kaufman and Jay Kristoff

One of Us is Lying by Karen M. McManus

The Final Six (The Final Six #1) by Alexandra Monir