Little White Lies Jennifer Lynn Barnes Reviewed by: Emily Gantz, 15

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Little White Lies is a mystery/drama novel written by Jennifer Lynn Barnes centering around a 16 year old girl by the name of Sawyer Taft. But what makes Sawyer so different from your average teenager is the fact that she is the result of a teenage pregnancy pact made by her mother and two friends. Since Sawyer was little, it has just been her and her not-so-responsible mother, living together in a small apartment above a bar in a run-down town. Her life was quite simple, working as a mechanic to pay the bills and contending with grabby customers using unique threats. But one night, an old woman turns up on her doorstep with a tempting offer; all the money she could ever need for school in exchange for her time and work as a debutante. This woman ends up being Sawyer's grandmother, and in taking her up on the offer, Sawyer is led into a world of drama, deception, and mystery, meeting all sorts of characters through the search for her real father. There's no telling what could happen if she makes the wrong move, so Sawyer must be careful. As the novel continues, Sawyer is caught between the lies and trickery of others and is given answers to questions she never thought she had. But the real answer she is looking for is much harder to obtain that she originally anticipated. Will she ever find the true identity of her father and get to the bottom of all the mysteries surrounding his identity? Or will the lies and deceit take her down like they have so many others? Read the book to find out.

I know that the synopsis I have provided above is a little long, but White Little Lies is a novel that contains so much detail, that it can be hard to decide what is the most important to include. However, that is the exact reason that I love this book so much. The detail is truly extraordinary and the writing has a way of enrapturing you in the mystery so much that you almost feel as though you are trying to solve it along with Sawyer. It is a truly impressive piece and I recommend it to anyone that loves a good mystery and can take the time to sit down and immerse themselves in it. I also adore the life and authenticity that the author is able to bring to the characters. This alone makes the book that much more entertaining and adds to the overall plot. With every novel though, there is always room for improvement. For me personally, I feel as though this book could have answered more questions in the end. Of course I always enjoy a good cliffhanger and there is a sequel, (Deadly Little Scandals) however, there is still so much left unanswered and that made the novel feel a little incomplete. Another part of the book that I did not enjoy was the fact that while the characters were brought to life very well, parts of their backstory were left out. Now of course the sequel may go more into depth in that aspect, but I still would've enjoyed a few extra stories from each character's past.

In the end, I thoroughly enjoyed this novel and feel that this book would work well as a gift for anyone who is 13 or so and up, as it does include some more mature language and content. Though this book can also be found at many libraries if you are just looking to try

something new. I can easily assure anyone that is looking to find a good book that if you try this one, it will not be a waste of time and you may even find a new genre and author that you fancy.

Recommended Book Titles:

Deadly Little Scandals Killer Instinct The Unfortunates