**Little Brother**

**Cory Doctorow**

**Reviewed by: Ananya Ganesh, 16**

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

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Marcus and his friends, all seventeen and extremely tech savvy, decide to skip out of school during the day to play a popular online scavenger hunt game. Little did they know they would be found at the scene of a terrorist attack that shook San Francisco to its core. Because of their experience with technology, Marcus and his friends are interrogated harshly by the Department of Homeland Security for days while being kept in a prison off the coast. When they come back, Marcus finds that the whole city had changed for the worse. Privacy was being stripped away ruthlessly and everyone was seen as a suspect for the events of the week before. It is up to Marcus, his friends, and his secret tech community to stop the Department of Homeland Security and their blatant invasion of privacy themselves.

In an increasingly tech dependent society, such as the likes of us, privacy invasion is a real concern for all citizens. Doctorow’s novel is a perfect example of just how easy it would be for the government to have access to all of our information. He also highlights how just because one doesn’t want their information known, doesn’t mean one is guilty. For these reasons, I found *Little Brother* to be one of my favorite books. Not only does it illustrate a terrifying society that isn’t so far out of reach, it is also written in a fast paced, thrilling manner, which sucks in readers for the duration of the book. After reading this novel I am definitely more likely to check out more cyberpunk thrillers and other works by Cory Doctorow.

This book would make an amazing gift for any fans of sci-fi or technology themed novels, or those who enjoy dystopian stories. Anyone grades nine and up would be comfortable with reading this book, and some eight graders should be able to handle this as well. There is some swearing and suggestive content, however it is nothing too explicit.

**Recommended Titles:**

Plague Land – Alex Scarrow

Dry – Neal Shusterman

I Am the Messenger – Markus Zusak

Satellite – Nick Lake