

Code Name Verity

Elizabeth Wein

Reviewed by: Anika 15

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

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Code Name Verity is about the friendship of two girls, Queenie and Maddie, during World War II. Queenie is a spy on a secret mission in France and Maddie is the pilot that takes her to France. But Queenie is soon captured by the Gestapo. After enduring much torture, Queenie relents to writing a confession to the Nazi interrogators. Queenie tells a story of love and loyalty for the Allies and most of all her friend Maddie. Following Queenie's confession, Maddie writes her own thoughts as she worked undercover to be reunited with her best friend.

Code Name Verity was a heart wrenching and heartwarming story of heroism. The characters seemed so real with their personalities and actions. Queenie is a confident Scotswoman who has more to her than I thought and so does Maddie. They both have their times of weakness but also of strength and bravery. I enjoyed the powerful female leads in this story. I loved how Code Name Verity kept me guessing and on my toes. There were so many plot twists I wasn't expecting and sad ones too. And the ending was very heartwarming and hopeful.

As much as I liked Code Name Verity, there was one thing I didn't quite like about the story. This might just be for me, but I had a hard time understanding all the concepts and routines for the aircraft mentioned in the book. I sometimes felt like skipping those parts because, to be honest, they were a bit boring, but for anyone who loves airplanes this would definitely be a book for you. One more thing to keep in mind is that this story takes place during World War 2, so there'll be violence and death. I suggest this for anyone 12 and up. This book would make a great gift, especially for anyone who loves airplanes.

Recommendations:

Rose Under Fire by Elizabeth Wein (Sequel to Code Name Verity)

The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

The Boy in the Striped Pajamas by John Boyne