MILA 2.0 #2: Renegade
Title: MILA 2.0 #2: Renegade  
Author: Debra Driza  
Reviewer: Liz Kazandzhy  
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Rating: Dependable

Review

After the murder of her mother, the girl android Mila follows a lead with the hope of discovering who she really is. She is joined by Hunter, the boy she met in her hometown just weeks earlier, and together they travel around the eastern U.S. searching for answers. Because of her own insecurities and the desire to protect Hunter, Mila struggles to be honest with him, and this causes rifts in their relationship as Hunter slowly realizes that Mila and her life are far from ordinary. After making their way from one lead to another, all the while running from the police and government agents, they finally find the man responsible for creating Mila, and Mila learns that she is actually more human than she thought. This man, however, soon turns her and Hunter over to the Vita Obscura, the anti-government group that has been tracking Mila down from the start. Despite having heard frightening things about this organization, Mila quickly finds that it is full of kind, quirky people with a seemingly noble cause. But Quinn, the woman in charge, has her own agenda to turn Mila into an emotionless weapon to seek revenge on Holland.

Much like the first MILA 2.0, the book starts off with melodramatic romance which then slowly makes its way into an action-packed storyline that continues until the end. There are several predictable moments, especially in the first half, but the plot eventually unfolds with more complexity and interest. Character development is deeper than in the first book, and it’s interesting to watch as Mila comes to accept herself and then reacts when that acceptance is challenged in the final chapters. The themes of artificial intelligence, identity, and emotions are further developed, and the degree of violence is similar to the first book (though with the same emphasis on Mila’s desire to be humane). Fans of the original MILA 2.0 would certainly enjoy Renegade, and it leaves the audience with yet another cliffhanger, keeping fans looking forward to book number three, Redemption.

*Contains mild language and moderate to severe violence.