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The Vault of Dreamers #2: The Rule of Mirrors

Liz Kazandzhy

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Review

After Sandy Berg took Rosie into his custody, he transported her to a facility to continue to mine her dreams. Meanwhile, in another area of the world, a teenage girl Althea Flores was lying in a coma. What Rosie and this girl have in common is that they come to share the same consciousness, an effect of the dream mining and seeding. The Althea version of Rosie (nicknamed Thea) wakes up from her coma confused, in a new (and pregnant) body, and surrounded by friends and family who expect her to be Althea. The other Rosie, unaware of Thea, escapes from Berg’s facility with a determination to seek revenge on him. When Thea returns home from the hospital, she enlists the help of Althea’s former boyfriend Tom to help her find answers in her hometown and at Forge School. During this time, Rosie makes her way to old friends, first Burnham and then Linus, which stirs up old romantic feelings. Eventually Thea and Rosie come face to face, an exchange that soon develops into a cliffhanger into the third and final book of the series.

Though the back-and-forth storytelling between Rosie and Thea takes some getting used to, the plot of The Rule of Mirrors becomes more fascinating as time goes on. As the two Rosies go about their quests to find answers and justice, it’s interesting to note the differences between the two and consider how this will affect the storyline. The struggle between mind and body plays out in the interchanges between Thea and Tom. In general, Thea’s situation raises intriguing questions about identity (a topic that’s often on the mind of teenagers). Also, the author has also gone above and beyond normal young adult romance, turning your typical love triangle into a love hexagon, due to the fact that there are now two Rosies in addition to Linus, Burnham, and Tom. Overall, this psychological thriller is unique and creative, fast-paced and unpredictable, and an excellent bridge between The Vault of Dreamers and what’s sure to be an enthralling conclusion in the next book.

*Contains mild language, mild violence, and mild sexual content.*