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Arcadia Burns

Lisa Packard

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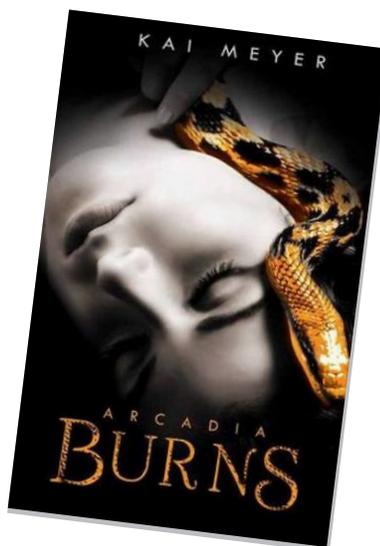
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Book Review

Title: Arcadia Burns
Author: Kai Meyer
Reviewer: Lisa Packard
Publisher: HarperCollins Publishers
Publication Year: 2013
ISBN: 9780062006080
Number of Pages: 424
Interest Level: Excellent
Rating: Young Adult



Review

As Rosa is still trying to get a handle on changing into a snake when her emotions get out of control, which is very hard to do with Alessandro around, she and Alessandro are trying to figure out who TABULA is and what they do. Rosa's family lawyer sends her a tape of who raped her almost two years ago and the discovery is disturbing. Alessandro's cousins raped her under the direction of her father, who is believed to be dead. As Rosa gets to the bottom of the mystery, the Hungry Man, the leader of all the clans, is sending hunting dogs to kill her. Rosa and Alessandro come up with a plan, but not without great loss. Alessandro's cousins are now dead, but Rosa still doesn't know where her father is, and what exactly her family is involved in. When Rosa meets the Hungry Man he doesn't really answer her questions, except for the fact that her father is alive and working with TABULA, the society of scientists working against the Arcadians and their legacy.

Meyer brings you a story of mystery, danger, and romance. In her new situation, Rosa is unsure of her new responsibilities. Teenage readers can relate to Rosa as they both have to make difficult decisions as they become adults. You can feel Rosa's conflict over her decisions and trying to make the correct ones that will have the most positive outcome while staying within the bounds of her morals and rules. Meyer's words transports you to a place of magic and mystery. As Rosa is running for her life, you are right beside her; the freezing temperatures of Central Park in the middle of winter tangible. Meyer uses clever, well-placed titles that grab readers' attention, leaving them wanting more. The cover art is another intriguing design choice that make readers want to know what is happening in this sequel. The writing style is amazing, but unfortunately it does get a bit dark and violent. Perhaps this isn't a book for those who are a bit sensitive to events of a darker nature (such as rape or gang violence). Overall, a wonderful read for those who like supernatural and mystery.

*Contains severe language, moderate sexual content, and severe violence