

[PDF] The Nightmare Affair

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Books Details:

Title: The Nightmare Affair

Author:

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Description:

From School Library Journal Gr 7 Up-Sixteen-year-old Destiny "Dusty" Everhart is a Nightmare, a magical creature who feeds on the dreams of others. She attends Arkwell Academy, a school for supernatural beings, and is allowed off campus on specific occasions to feed. When she enters the dreams of Eli Booker, she gets quite a shock: he is dreaming about a murder that is taking place at Arkwell. After she leaves his dream, Dusty finds that the events she just witnessed have happened in real life. Using her talents, she must gather clues and follow signs in order to solve the murder and prevent the killer from striking again. Because she and Eli have a bond that she does not understand, she must do this by entering his dreams over and over again. As a new entry in an already crowded field of supernatural stories set in boarding schools, this addition holds its own but

does not stand out. Readers of P. C. Cast and Kristin Cast's "House of Night" (St. Martin's Griffin), Richelle Mead's "Vampire Academy" (Razorbill), Lauren Kate's "Fallen" (Delacorte), Rachel Hawkins's "Hex Hall" (Hyperion), and numerous other series will find the setting familiar-and perhaps a bit stale. Arnett offers quick pacing and plenty of plot twists, but the Arthurian elements seem out of place in the novel's magic system. Purchase this book if enthusiasm for paranormal boarding-school stories still runs high.-Misti Tidman, Licking County Library, Newark, OHα(c) Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

From A half-muggle teenager acquires new powers, meets hunky boys, and saves the world. As if it's not bad enough that Dusty, being a Nightmare, has to straddle sleeping ordinaries to feed on the mystic matter that powers their dreams, her latest assigned victim turns out to be Eli, alpha male from her old high school. Worse yet, when she's in his head, his dreams become true visions—of, for instance, a classmate's brutal murder. Arnett surrounds her smart-mouthed but mildly insecure narrator with a cast of student sirens, demons, wizards, and other magical sorts at Arkwell Academy (think Hogwarts, only in Ohio) and, not to mention the customary sniping between rivals, romantic complications, snogging, and parental head-butting. dishes up hard tests of courage and character as Dusty and allies expose a dark plot to break the governing spell that keeps magickind from taking over the planet. The paranormal dramedy tropes are well worn, but the author adds a few twists to them and provides adequate, if not complete, closure. Grades 6-9. --John Peters

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