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Backward Glass



Synopsis

Help me make it not happen, Kenny. Help me stop him. When Kenny Maxwell moves into his family's new yet falling apart Victorian home in 1977, he makes a shocking discovery in the carriage house. Buried inside the wall is a baby's mummified body wrapped in old newspaper, along with a handwritten plea for help. Soon after his gruesome finding, a beautiful girl named Luka introduces Kenny to the backward glass, a mirror that allows him to travel in time. Through it, he meets other mirror kids from past and future decades. But the more Kenny learns about the mirror, the more he realizes that Prince Harming, a dangerous urban legend who kidnaps and kills children, is hunting him. Somehow he must use the backward glass to confront his destiny, save the baby, and stop Prince Harming before time runs out. Praise: Intricate, lusciously creepy paranormal mystery. Kirkus Reviews (starred review) ""Debut novelist Lomax handles the plot's complexities with skill."" PUBLISHERS WEEKLY ""This debut novel will leave readers eager for more."" BOOKLIST ""Get ready to slide down into the past with David Lomax's Backward Glass. It's cold on the way down, hot on the way up into the future, and it is always, always riveting, no matter which direction in time he takes his courageous and intelligent teenagers. I'd read this again and again. Actually, the future me has already done so, I can assure you."" CHRISTOPHER BARZAK, AUTHOR OF ONE FOR SORROW

Book Information

Lexile Measure: HL690L (What's this?)

Paperback: 336 pages

Publisher: North Star Editions (October 8, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0738737518

ISBN-13: 978-0738737515

Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 0.7 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (22 customer reviews)

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Age Range: 12 and up

Customer Reviews

Read more: [...]Do you love nursery rhymes? Of course you don't, they're creepy as hell. Which is why they make the perfect backdrop for this eerie time travelling mystery that starts with a dead baby in the wall and ends with a startling revelation. Now, time travel can get janky, but Lomax does it well. You can only travel 10 years up or back. Only between the Mirror. Only Mirror Children can go. And nothing can change. Lomax does a damn good job of twisting together events and playing with the idea of the past and future depending on each other. It killed my brain but in a good, interesting way. The only problem was towards the end, where it got a little too confusing for me to hold onto the story. However, I got on board with the characters and stuck with them. I wished there had been more of the feisty Luka, but Kenny as a narrator really grew on me. His is a slightly naive, hopeful voice that gives perspective to the dark story. I won't soon forget this story. plot . 4/5 You start with a mummified baby in the wall and a note--Help me save him--so you know it's gonna get good. Then a girl falls out of Kenny's mirror, and suddenly we're racing through time searching for the nefarious Prince Harming with one purpose: stop the baby from dying. The problem? The rules of time travel say that you can't change the past. What's happened has already happened. That doesn't stop Kenny from trying. It's an exciting race between Kenny and the mirror children, who are convinced that Prince Harming killed the baby, vs Prince Harming, who's convinced that Kenny is going to murder his wife sometime in the past. What comes out is a thrilling mystery with complex threads and the kind of reveal that made me smack myself in the forehead.

I received a free ARC of Backward Glass from Flux via Netgalley in exchange of an honest review Backward Glass is a brilliant YA time travel novel, and it really made my day! The main character, Kenny, is pretty careful, but his travels to the past (and sometimes to the future) take him on such a wild adventure I was almost out of breath at times. I love reading about time travel, and I thought it was very well done in Backward Glass. Like, you can't change what has happened, but you can still be the captain of your own life â " that is very important to me on both counts. The characters in Backward Glass are all very well done! I loved Kenny from the very beginning, and the way the readers are introduced to him is very clever. The mystery is there from the very beginning, as Kenny and his dad find a mummified baby inside one of the walls of the carriage house in their new garden. Kenny gets a strange feeling before he finds the newspaper with the dead baby inside, like there's static electricity there, and he can't touch the bundle at all. The side characters

are fleshed out and real as well, and that is always a good thing in my opinion. Racing backwards in time to save someone without actually knowing the whole story and not knowing who the bad guy is becomes second nature to Kenny pretty fast. He really has no choice if he wanted to go back to his own time â “ 1977. However, between the kids that might have their own agenda, and not really meeting many adults at all, Kenny needs to act fast and be smart about his choices.

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