



The Shadow Club Rising

Neal Shusterman

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The Shadow Club doesn't exist anymore. The group of second-best kids used to play anonymous practical jokes on their rivals, until things spiraled out of control. Now Jared and the ex-Shadow Club members are having a hard time shaking their reputation. And when the new golden boy at school is the victim of a series of nasty pranks, everyone's convinced Jared is to blame. Determined to prove his innocence, Jared soon becomes wrapped up in a nightmare worse than anything the Shadow Club ever caused.

The Shadow Club Rising Details

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From Reader Review The Shadow Club Rising for online ebook

Erica Alyson says

I liked this book and the last a lot. Great story and life lesson :)

Delilah Larsen says

i liked how their was a lot of problem solving.

Marilyn says

I read The Shadow Club waaay back in the day and was worried I wouldn't remember enough to really get into the sequel. I decided to give it a go without rereading the first book anyway and was pleased with the job Neal Shusterman did of recapping the first story in little snatches - it was enough to jog my memory, but not overdone. So if it's been awhile since you read the first Shadow Club go ahead and dive into this one anyway. If you haven't read the original, I do suggest reading that one first because although this book will actually read just fine on its own, it's much better as a sequel.

Suyash Gupta says

Brilliant! Couldn't stop reading until the end.

I liked it even better than the first book. Even though this book was not as thought provoking as the first one, the intense mystery more than compensated for it. While reading it, I felt so many emotions surging inside me, and by the end my eyes were wet, not because it had a sad ending but because I felt so uplifted from inside. This short duology by Shusterman is immensely satisfying. A must read series!

Victoria says

The Shadow Club Rising follows the events of the first book after the disbandment of Jared's club. In fact, I think I liked the sequel more because of the greater intensity of the mystery. That, though, doesn't change the fact that both are amazing and I greatly enjoyed reading them.

Before starting the sequel I wondered what was going to happen after the Shadow Club got dissolved. Would it be as interesting as the first? I thought it would all be over when the club gets disbanded but obviously that was not the case.

The story introduces a new character, Alec Smartz. He is the type that most people admire - good at whatever he does without putting much effort into it. However, being too popular is a double-edged sword.

And so Alec gains not only fans, but enemies as well. That's when the pranks begin all over again, focused only on Alec and making his life miserable. The pranks are much worse than what The Shadow Club was capable of pulling out, even endangering the Alec's life.

Of course, the one who gets all the blame is the main character, Jared. Alec himself keeps accusing him and Jared is constantly framed for everything unfortunate that happens to him. I was quite impressed with Jared's actions because he never backed down, even when he knew he was beaten.

"Maybe I did all of those things to Alec," I told Greene, "But you'll never prove it...because I'm too smart for you." Then I stood up, and strutted out of his office without looking back. If this was a witch trial, then I was not going to drown with a whimper. I would float in defiance. I would be the witch.

I felt kind of sorry for Tyson because again Jared falsely accused him of things he hadn't done, similar to what he did in the first book. This time, however, he didn't get beaten for which I was extremely grateful. I did like how the two of them grew closer and closer throughout the story and at the end Tyson even perceived Jared as a brotherly figure.

This duology was a welcome change after getting disappointed with other contemporary books that I have read. Too bad this is the last book of the series.

Karen Ball says

The Shadow Club was a group of "second-best" kids who were always left out of the spotlight, and managed to come up with a series of pranks. But the jokes got out of control, and people got hurt, and so the Shadow Club is no more. The members still have the bad reputation that goes along with actions like that, and whenever something nasty happens, the adults find it easiest to blame them. Jared used to be one of the leaders of the Shadow Club, and he's being blamed for the string of increasingly evil practical jokes being played on the school's new practically-perfect student, Alec Smartz. Jared is being framed -- but how to prove it? He gathers the Shadow Club back together with a new mission: find out who's behind these new pranks and protect Alec. Unfortunately, the former members one by one refuse to help, and Jared is left alone to prove his innocence by catching the real culprit, who's also attacking others besides Alec. A good suspenseful mystery! 6th grade and up.

Sleepless says

If you have ever spoken to me about books, I may have mentioned that the Unwind series is my favorite book/ series, tying with Harry Potter. That said, I actually haven't read too many Neal Shusterman books, apart from it. I'm still in the middle of the Everwild (I think that's its name? I'm on mobile and can't check) series.

This book is an excellent sequel. I read the first one two years ago and I remember it as a great book. I think I might like the first one better but it's clear this book is an amazing continuation that picks up right where the other one left.

I kind of procrastinated everything I needed to do to read this and am panicking right now so I'll make this quick. It has the same themes, Jared's character evolves beautifully, around the middle, it becomes impossible to stop reading, damn that ending, Tyson is a great character and I loved his relationship with Jared.

I disliked immensely the morning jogging bit, I think it won't help the guy whose Cadillac was ruined but okay.

things I'm taking with me

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Lindsay says

This book is a great sequel. Shusterman's stories about the super natural are scary, but stories with possible premises, like Unwind, are scarier, and books completely plausible are terrifying. This could happen in my town, your town or your cousin's town. All of those feelings of anger and jealousy boil over, and people are turned into monsters, except they don't know it. Like Jared said, nobody thinks of themselves as evil.

This book really made me think of criminal cases. Often, if a case is in the media, I pick a side, without know all of the facts and without knowing the person who did it. But this book shows me how people become monsters and how they can turn back.

Kimberly says

A very easy read and I liked this one better than the first. I still felt like I was too old for the book, and would have enjoyed it more had I read it younger. The story was a bit better and less predictable than the first.

I would have given it 4 stars, but I had one major complaint (which is a minor spoiler of the first book - but I tried to keep things vague). I felt like one character got blamed (by his peers, school, parents, and himself) a lot for what happened in the first book, even though he had no role in the worst things that had happened. It seemed a bit excessive relative to the blame attributed to the other person/people.

Sharon says

REREAD: This is just as good as the first time through. Love it. :) And love Jared.

Golly, I love this book. And I love Jared Mercer.

While reading this, I gasped and I laughed and I squealed, I was angry and sad and happy. I learned my lesson. I was there right along with Jared, feeling his pain at the mistrust, the horror at the pranks, the fear, the confusion, the determination, the success, the love, the humor. I loved his strength in overcoming what people thought of him, working towards something greater, truly knowing what was right and what was wrong.

I think if I was pushed to say one, my one and only complaint about this book would be that the horribleness of the pranks the new TSC pulled made me doubt a little of humanity (nowhere near the degree of dystopians though). If it hadn't been for Jared's stronger and sane mind, I might've stayed there, but ultimately he pulled me out of it--after all, as Mr. Knightley says, the truest friend does not doubt, but hope. Hope is what Jared made me do.

I really like the end when they go back and clean up their mess, and Jared talks about how kindness can escalate just as cruelty does. And I love that he forgives them, all of them.

I was telling someone recently that while I love superheros, I wish there was one that advocated mercy. They all seem to be about bringing justice down on the criminals, but I wanted one who saw the good in people and could bring it out of them, a hero who gave people a second chance and that chance what just what someone needed.

Jared is that hero, for me.

Claudio Coleman says

This book was slow at the beginning and then got more action packed in the end. This book is after the original Shadow Club (which I have not read) which was a club of second best kids who played anonymous pranks on people. The pranks turned into small town terrorism. After the Shadow Club got disbanded Jared felt sorry and is repentant. Then a new kid Alec Smartz comes along and anonymous pranks start happening to him, this was the start of the Shadow Club rising again and Jared feels incined to find out who is pulling the pranks to prove his innocence.

Neal Shusterman had done a good job in letting the reader know what happened in the Original Shadow Club and so I was able to easily understand the story. The book was very exciting and I would always try to use the clues Jared had been finding throughout the story to see if I could figure out who was behind the pranks before Jared in which case I could not. Overall it's a good read and recommend it to anyone who likes mystery stories.

Zhu Ying says

Just like the first one, this book is also awesome and I really like this too. I don't really enjoy series much but this one is a special one. Didn't disappoint me and hook me to the plot just like the first one. I finished two of these in 2 days and I just felt super good after reading these. Absolutely 5 stars for this.

Tammy Dring says

So this was a book that I stumbled upon at the Goodwill while scouring the shelves for a different book. I grabbed it in greedy excitement because I had no idea this book existed. The Shadow Club Rising is a sequel to The Shadow Club, which was a book we read as a class like in 5th grade. It's also one of the few books that has stuck with me and I still read every few years or so.

The Shadow Club and Rising aren't necessarily really well written or extraordinary books and to be honest I'm not positive why they resonate with me or why I like them so. They are young adult books that are essentially about bullying. They're a bit over-dramatic and it's a struggle to remind myself that the characters are only 14 not 16/17 which the maturity level in the books would make you think. And I personally think there is a big age difference between 14 and 16 or 17.

The Shadow Club is about a group of kids who, annoyed and fed up with always coming up just short to a few fellow classmates who rub their noses in it, decide to band together and pull a few harmless pranks. Of course the pranks begin to escalate to a dangerous level. Jared, the second best runner in school, is the leader and main character. There's also the second best basketball player, second smartest person, second best swimmer, etc...

Rising takes place about four months since the fallout of the first book. A new kid, Alec, has come to school and is pretty much perfect. Best athlete and smarter than the smartest kid. And he knows it. And he's a big jerkface. Not surprisingly. It doesn't take long for pranks to start happening to Alec. The suspicions immediately fall back on Jared, who took most of the blame for the previous books events.

Turns out the Shadow Club didn't die, but secretly grew and became something much more sinister. This book takes a much darker turn than it's predecessor which I think for a young adult book says a lot.

Like it's predecessor Rising is over-the-top, but then again in days like today when we are flooded by the news with stories of unimaginable acts committed by teens to other teens, maybe it's spot on. And the first was written in 1988. It's a very interesting look into the impact of what sociologists call "mob mentality." A phenom I believe to be most strong in teens as they are at the epicenter of social pressure. Maybe that's why my teacher had us read that book. Maybe she was trying to show us that it's ok to not be the best and that you can have a voice and go against the crowd rather than be swept away. Maybe not. I don't remember any of the classroom discussions that I'm sure we had while reading this book, so I can't say if we talked about bullying or anything like that to say that we read this book as a prophylactic.

I also can't say if it would really work. I really only read deeper into the social aspects of this book today when I read Rising from start to finish. (It's a very quick 200 page read.)

I just liked this book. No real rhyme or reason to why. I just did. Made me want to read the first over again and I think I will since I have nothing else to do before a big night of Canasta tonight.

I give The Shadow Club Rising three sticky gold stars.

Mart says

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Amanda Walters says

The sequel to The Shadow Club by Neal Shusterman. A fantastic read for any YA fan. I wasn't sure where this book was going to go after the first one. I did wonder if more of the same would become too unbelievable and would leave me thinking he should have left it there. Actually it was really well written and follows on superbly from the first book.

A great little book with a huge 4.5 stars.
