



Enmity

E.J. Andrews

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Love vs Life.

Good vs Evil.

War vs Warfare.

Which would you choose?

After a solar flare wipes out most of the world's inhabitants, it leaves behind nothing but a desolate earth and a desperate population. Existence is no longer a certainty. And with factions now fighting for the power to rule, people start to become reckless with their lives. The world has become a dangerous place.

Amongst the ensuing chaos, Nate and Hermia — two victims of the new world order — are taken against their will to The Compound. Joined by eight other teenagers all chosen for a specific reason, Nate and Hermia are forced to train as assassins to overthrow the current president and make way for a new leader of the free world. Here, they learn to plan, fight, and most importantly... to survive.

Except, despite the casual cruelty of their new existence, both Nate and Hermia — two very strong but very different people — begin to form fragile bonds within the group. But they soon realize their happiness is short lived...because their training is just the beginning.

A war awaits...regardless of how ready or willing they may be.

Enmity Details

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Author : E.J. Andrews

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From Reader Review Enmity for online ebook

Erin says

I don't know what to say about this book and to be honest I wasn't sure if I would like this book or not (this is probably because the cover and the font used on this cover reminded me so much of Veronica Roth's Divergent cover and heck it's probably the same elements as that Divergent cover but I don't really care about covers all too much). But regardless of that, I still wasn't entirely sure about this book and yet I still wanted to have a crack at this book. And I did.

So while I liked the direction the story was heading in and some of the characters featured in the book, however I felt this particular title wasn't original enough for me to come to like it and maybe it's because of the genre being too much of that 'same thing' if you know what I mean. I guess in the future I may take a break on dystopian books . . . for a while at least because it's hard to find anything original these days.

Overall, while I didn't like this book as much as I wanted to, but I can still see many other readers come to like this book as it has that Divergent and Hunger Games feel to it.

* Thanks to the publisher on netgalley for providing me with a review copy of this book.

Michelle, the Bookshelf Stalker Queen of the Undead says

Not liking the characters, & now there was a big jump in the storyline that made no sense. I'm giving up. No rating since I didn't reach far enough in the story.

Sheree says

I wanted to love this one, regular readers of my blog know how much I love Dystopia and Enmity held such promise. The synopsis sold me ... sadly the execution failed to live up to it.

There was enough action to keep the plot moving but poor writing turned something that could have been amazing into a hot mess. It makes me sad criticising an author's 'baby' but I'm just one opinion so be sure to check out other reviews.

Sally906 says

I found ENMITY a bit hard to get into, and was quite lost and confused to start with until I figured that the narration point of view was switching between Nate and Hermia in such quick succession that I wasn't sure where I was or who I was with. Once I had figured it out the narration technique I was able to follow it better but I do wish the switching back and forth didn't happen as quickly as this trend continued all through the book making it very disjointed. To be fair the age group it is aimed at is more tech savvy than me and used to snippets of information being thrust at them – short and concise then off to the next shiny thing – whereas I

am older and grumpier and want it all laid out in sequence not jumping around all over the place like a butterfly with hiccups. So this gripe is really a personal one rather than condemnation of the technique. Despite the disjointedness I did enjoy the story, and gradually got to know some of the other characters and where they fitted in. Well as much as I could before various ones were bumped off without so much as a by-your-leave and left me wondering what was the point of including them in the first place because while their deaths made sense their role in the book didn't. I also couldn't figure out who the 'goodies' were and who the 'baddies' were but I don't think Nate and Hermia did either so maybe that was all part of the scenario. I liked the basic idea of the plot; most of the population was wiped out sixty years ago when solar flares cooked most of Earth. It made sense that someone would want to be the head honcho and to do that violence would break out between the various groups whose leaders want to be the ultimate world leader.

Without going into the pages and pages of ad nauseam background world building that I have experienced from Sci-Fi/Fantasy authors lately, author E.J. Andrews managed to succinctly create a bleak and violent dystopian world, part of which I would expect such as huge walls to keep the sun out, armed people, muggings, robbery, girls selling their virginity just to make a living with not much option to do anything else. Then there was the part I didn't expect such as ATMs, electricity, very advanced technology (not for the masses), no food shortages, liveable houses (with radio and TV), school, and the 'downtrodden' to have jobs (even though some were terrible) and normal lives just like people who haven't gone through an end of the world experience. But the violence is really violent. Nate, Hermia and eight others are kidnapped, some with family members being killed in the process. But why these particular 10 out of all the potential cannon fodder roaming the streets? And why are they brutalised almost to the point of death during their training? I am talking heads being blown off and then everyone sits down to have dinner! Also I am not sure what the time frame is in history, but 60 years after the world has ended the group that kidnaps the 10 teens has some amazing gadgets and some super advanced scientific techniques in their secret compound. It wasn't made clear to me how they got these incredible scientific advances although they were really effective. Hermia is blunt, angry and is not backwards at coming forwards; Nate is quieter – a thinker – the leader. Together they make a good team – but not a love interest. They each have a love interest it's just not each other; they do have a connection with each other which explains their presence their but not really why the others were chosen, but secrets do abound and some are revealed so maybe the other secrets will be as well in the future books in this series. You don't know who is lying, who is spying, who has an ulterior motive to do anything and this gives the reader an uneasy feeling that they just don't know what is going to happen next, which character's narration to trust.

Despite my problems with ENMITY I really enjoyed this complex debut story and would definitely read the next in the series to see where E.J. Andrews is going to take her characters.

Charlotte says

I truly believe this could have been a good book if some actual thought went into it. It was a nice easy read though

Azi says

I'd seen this book at the bookshop multiple times before I built up the courage to finally get it, and I am so

very glad I did. I absolutely adore this book. It stretches the boundaries of the typical YA dystopian genre in a way I have never read before. I loved the change in perspective between Nate and Hermia throughout the novel and it was really well signposted which made it an easy read. I was extremely surprised by the end of this story and I hope that there is a sequel because the story kind of just finished. Never the less it was a phenomenal story and I can't wait to see how the characters progress. :) Well done E.J. Andrews.

Libby Wyatt says

To be honest, I really didn't like this one. I found it to be too jumpy, with the two points of view. We'd have one scene in Harmia's POV than jump into Nate's in a completely different time and place. There was no clarity throughout this book, I was lost a lot of the times with the plot and who was good and bad. Harmia is a complete and utter bitch and was not so fun to read about. Nate on the other hand was in love with someone after two weeks of knowing them... And it was only two weeks after his family was murdered. I mean really?

Not sure if there is going to be a sequel but I'm most defiantly not picking it up.

Gail says

My feelings towards this novel changed as the story progressed. During the first few chapters, I felt that it lacked emotion and direction. But after a while, I began to enjoy reading from Nate and Hermia's perspective. I started to love the characters like they were my own friends, and I was eager to know what was in store for them all.

Full review here: <http://gailaranas.blogspot.com/2014/0...>

Kara says

1.5 / 5 stars --

Enmity by E.J Andrews could have been a fantastic, action-packed, and romantic read if only it had lived up to its potential. The novel opened up promising: it opens up just before the solar flare that destroyed most of the world takes place, and follows the story in alternating point of views of Hermia and Nate. Nate and Hermia, along with a bunch of other teenagers (who are badly characterized, might I add) are forced to become assassins to overthrow the president.

My first piece of criticism is the alternating point of views. Ordinarily, I don't like how novels flick back and forth between two protagonists in first person. Their narration is all meshed together until sometimes I'm unsure about whose point of view I'm actually reading. On more than one occasion I had to flick back some pages to check, which is a sign of not very good writing in my opinion.

First person present tense is a tough writing style to conquer, and I'm afraid that E.J Andrews did not master it. I felt myself slugging through it most of the time I was reading, skimming over paragraphs that were badly written, and just wanting to get to the end. There was enough action and intrigue to keep my interested, yes,

but the writing style let the storyline down.

The romance in *Enmity* was another major let down. It was rushed and moved much too quickly. For example, one of the characters was declaring their love for another by page 133. This bothered me a lot—they hardly knew each other. The relationship I am referring to was painful to read to the point of eye-rolling, and I found that there were few, if any, redeemable factors of this novel.

Alas, there was nothing special about this. There are better dystopian reads out there.

Thank you to NetGalley and Harlequin Australia for this eARC.

Arielle Walker says

Whenever I start yet another YA post-apocalyptic-dystopian-fiction, I am prepared for one of two reactions: delight, or disappointment. Unfortunately, at the moment, disappointment seems to be the most common reaction as each new book feels like a clone of the previous one, with no new ideas and – usually – no good writing to set it apart. Occasionally, however, a book will come along that is completely original and unique, with a clear and distinct voice that sets it apart from the others in the genre. The Hunger Games was one of these anomalies, with Marie Lu's Legend and (especially) Julianna Baggott's Pure continuing the trend of being unexpected delights (though in Baggott's case, "delight" may not be the right word - the world of Pure is too dark for that). Reading yet another, new YA post-apocalyptic-dystopian-fiction book by an unknown author is, therefore, a bit of a gamble – will this one be a let down, or a contender for book of the year?

Even a week or so after finishing Enmity, the debut novel by New Zealand/Australian author E.J Andrews, I still have no idea which of those categories it fits into.

...Andrew's writing is skillful, and she clearly gets across a sense of unease and tension as the teenagers are put through increasingly dangerous, difficult tasks. Where it gets confusing is in the pacing of the story. Half the time I found myself flicking back through chapters to work out what I missed, only to find that I had in fact missed nothing. New information is thrown in all the time with no warning, and there are many parts where it feels as though entire chapters have been skipped as the plot starts to make less and less sense. This, coupled with a few frustrating cases of "insta-love" and some rather bizarre character developments, made the whole reading experience rather jarring.

[Full review here](#)

Received from publisher through NZ Booklovers

Lauren says

This book wasn't the worst but it wasn't the best. It was the worst dystopian book I've read. It was quite boring and the only reason I carried on reading it and finished it was because when I was half way and I thought I've gotten this far and I've wasted my time so I should just finished.

There is meant to be a sequel and it still hasn't come out and if it does I will read it because the book isn't finished and I'm the type of person that need closure when reading and I hate it when authors leave the book unfinished.

Shaheen says

I don't actually know what happened here.

Ok, so I know that a solar flare killed off almost everyone on earth. There were two hundred people in the (US?) army. There are ten people left in the world, with type O blood. I don't actually know what the adults do now, but the kids go to school (that's right, they're in SCHOOL!).

Not Hermia though. I think she was a dancer in a strip club? Maybe.

Anyway, Hermia, Nate and a bunch of other kids (aged 17-20) are kidnapped and then put into a freakishly lavish training centre and trained. To kill the people who are threatening the life of the President (of the US?), or to protect the President, or maybe both. Except that their training includes being killed, almost killed, and maimed frightfully. I'm not entirely sure how that works either.

The story is told in dual point of view by Hermia and Nate, who (thankfully) aren't destined to be romantically involved. I liked Nate a lot, but Hermia was really annoying. She judges anything and everything around her, no one is ever good enough for her. She's got **issues**. Any display of emotions makes her want to vomit, the charming thing she is. Nate was much more enjoyable to read about. He's level-headed and cares for the people around him – a natural born leader.

The romances in this book are oddly clinical. I didn't feel any passion or fire, Nate and Hermia just saw people and fell in insta-love. Oh, and there was a bizarre obsession with eyes: everyone was either falling into eyes or captured by eyes. Eyes changed colour, pupils dilated, darkened with desire etc. Eyes, eyes everywhere. Actually, I remember thinking at one point that Marina was just a pair of blue eyes to Nate, maybe with lips attached for kissing. (Har har, I'm funny).

But the biggest let down of this book wasn't the world-building or the romances, it was the oddly clunky plotting. I really don't have a clue what was going on most of the time. Some of the kids died in the training and many of them sustained horrible injuries. It really made no sense if they were kidnapped to be the heart of some rebellion or protection detail. Also, they were just walking around and they stumbled on the headquarters of the bad guys. Moreover, the climactic battle was very confusing, with people running everywhere and getting themselves captured or killed, and then the captured people were rescued in increasingly unrealistic fashions. And the ending really, really confused me.

I was liking the book while I was reading it – there was certainly a lot going in – and I guess I'd assumed that everything would eventually become clear. Except it didn't. So when I turned the last page, I was mostly disappointed. *Enmity* left me very confused, and ultimately I didn't enjoy it much at all.

A copy of this book was provided by the publisher for review.

You can read more of my reviews at **Speculating on SpecFic**.

Gina - Behind the Pages says

See the original review and Guest Post (The Villains of Enmity) on my blog, Behind the Pages

Thanks to Harlequin Australia for providing a copy for review

Full of action and suspense. Enmity has you on the edge of your seat and keeps you guessing until the very end.

What. The. F**k.

There is nothing else that describes this book once you have finished it.

I literally sat on my bed after putting the book down and just started staring at everything, wondering what the hell I'm supposed to do now. This book leaves you so unravelled, and so.... I don't even know!

I'm pretty sure the prologue is my favourite part of this novel. It hooked me into the novel and I was excited for what was in store after reading this. Yet..... 60 years into the future and there is I think two mentions of the solar flare and how hot it could get sometimes in the first few chapters, then it's like it never even existed. It's like we are just in any other kind of dystopian novel. I was hoping to get insight on the solar flare, and to see something more come from it all than just a prologue. The worst thing is, is that I kept trying to find out where Saoirse was in the book, or at least what became of her and if anyone descends from her, through THE WHOLE BOOK... and I got zip, nada, zero. It's like she never existed along with that solar flare.

The only other thing that I liked about this book was how much action was happening. The story was always going forward, and we were always entertained in some way (even though the end was pretty much a slow decline). There was some sort of action in every decent length chapter and I wanted to keep on reading to see more! There was also quite a bit of suspense in this novel, it was always leading up to something, and even if it wasn't done in the right way (leaving me thinking WTF is this for!), I was always kept guessing at the truth.

Insta-love. Right up there for me with love triangles, and oh, the hate I have for insta-love characters. And it was practically one sided both ways! This wasn't very tolerable for me, it was like, as soon as you say one word, the other character instantly falls in love with them. OH COME ON!! ARE YOU SERIOUS RIGHT NOW!! And then Hermia at the end of the book! What the actual f**k. Her actions left me stunned and shocked, I literally slammed this book closed after reading that. How can you do something like that, then want to think about the other person later on and feel guilty, and even some sadness because you did something when they actually wanted to be with you. Are you INSANE?

What you find once you finish reading this book, is that Hermia and Nate have yet the same voice but different. In some parts of the book, you can tell whose POV we are reading, but then you suddenly get lost and wonder whose POV it really is. Confusing, but that's the reality of it! Then, for practically every chapter, the other character goes through the exact same thing. Literally, either they both get hurt in a chapter right after the other or find out some big secret. You never see one proper chapter in either Nate or Hermia's POV without going through the same (or slight differences) scene right after each other. Once one character does it, the other has to as well. Even in the romantic aspect. They both find love interests in chapters right after each other, and we see that only person in each of the two relationships loves the other (insta-love right here folks!!), and believes that the other loves them back, even when they don't say it.

The writing style in this book was so on and off for me. One minute, I'm understanding what's going on, the writing style is easy to read and picture, then BAM. It's like the author just wanted to start changing her writing to make it sound, what? Professional? Technical? Complex? I don't know, you decide which is better, because at the times when I really needed to understand what was going on, I was so confused by the writing in this book, that I needed to go back and re-read the paragraph (sometimes the page), again and again. Sometimes I still wouldn't understand, so I just skipped it after so many re-reads I was getting annoyed. This book was leading up to this big main battle (as most reads do), but then when we get to this battle, we are literally jumped forward in time. We don't even get to see this big battle that the characters were preparing THE WHOLE BOOK FOR. I can't even.... I just.... urghhh.

Concluding thoughts. Well, the action throughout the whole book made it enjoyable for me, minus everything else. And the fact that I was kept guessing at what the truth could be in different scenarios, and not getting any right was a good thing as well. This book kept me on my toes, while wanting to throw it to the wall. It's definitely a book that I might need to re-read once the rest of the series comes out, to see if it becomes clearer to me. This is a strange one guys!

Gabby says

I didn't have high expectations for this book, though it still succeeded in disappointing me. Firstly, the plot and setting in general felt generic and overused, as if someone had seen the success of YA dystopian stories such as the hunger games and decided to make a bad version of it. The world never felt fully developed, and I was left feeling confused about what the whole conflict and motivation for the characters even was. I think this is really due to the poor writing style, that felt oversimplified and a classic case of telling, and not showing. The characters were also 2-dimensional and annoying, making them almost impossible to like or root for. In fact, most of the characters felt exactly the same, with no discernible qualities that separated them. The plot did get a little more interesting toward the end, though the bland characters really stopped me from having any hope of enjoying it. I would have put this book down, if not for the fact that I bought it a few years ago and hence felt the need to read it entirely. Let's just say I regret purchasing it greatly...

Tash says

I'm really sad with this book because it had so much promise to change from that normal dystopian style to something a little outside of the box but in the end I was extremely disappointed with this book and it left me with a whole lot of unanswered questions (not the good kind) and just a whole lot of "What?"

Can I just start by pointing out that we meet a girl in the beginning called Saoirse (can i just say how much i love that name) and she basically walks us through the solar flare that wipes out most of the earth's inhabitants and then we never hear from her again. Like POOF! Did she ever even survive? I swear every time a character started going on about there family I was always like - okay now he's gonna reveal that she was his grandmother - but nope. In the end she never even gets mentioned again. I feel like the author could of at least thrown her in there or I just feel like that just wasted a huge colossal time of my reading. If your not gonna mention her again then why not just describe the solar flare through Nate and Hermia's thoughts? She was honestly a complete waste of a character.

Characters:

Ok so now we're introduced to two completely different characters Hermia and Nate. So lets just get straight into that.

Nate: Nate is supposed to be a happy-go-lucky, so-nice-it-makes-me-sick kinda guy but I never saw that in him. That random outburst at the table about his family. That random time when he got that keeper to beat him up. I never even saw him be happy that much at all. Another one of his huge traits is supposed to be his great leadership. Leaders are supposed to be courageous and wise but he just threw himself into the line of fire all the time to keep his team safe - it may be heroic but leaving your group to try and figure out what to do once your dead is not leadership and I always think he was just looking after himself or nearly getting his friends killed to look after Marina, not exactly leadership. Speaking of what was the deal between those two. Marina and Nate was the most unbelievable love story. They were love at first sight I guess an then they just follow each other around for ages the they randomly kiss and their what - dating now? Then she gets annoyed and he nearly does as its like - the end. What. The. Actual. Frick.

Hermia: so moving on from that we have Hermia. Now I thought Hermia had the potential to be a really powerful character but Andrews totally ruined her. At the beginning I liked her attitude and her judgemental and narcissistic ways. But towards the end she gets really weird. She has like a mental breakdown, and this character that Andrews has been developing as a strong figure cries all the time and just becomes a completely lost cause. It's like what. And that relationship with Chase. I really liked chase as a character and unlike marina and Nate I felt like this romance was going somewhere. They meet, they deny each other, then they finally get together - thank god. Then Darria walks in on them and she gets all morally righteous and decides to believe Bill's nonsense then she hates him and then when she finally sees he was lying to Darria and that he actually does love her. She kills him. For absolutely no reason other then the fact that she doesn't think she deserves to be loved and its like . WHAT?.

Overall Hermia and Nate were under-developed characters. It's like she hadn't even thought them through. Not only that but there were just too many characters, and it was hard to remember them all and there weird personality's. and was it just me or did anyone else notice Lola disappeared half way through the book and never came back. Not only that but I think it was a weird way to go choosing Nate and Hermia's perspective as the books narrators because they are complete opposites and they go against each other and it results in the book not flowing properly.

Plot: lastly the plot in this was once again underdeveloped and not at all thought through. It left me with so many unanswered questions and not even a sequel to answer them. It explains at the end that they performed an in-vitro fertilisation and that it gave them heightened senses and freak aim but it never fully explained the heightened senses or freak aim just a few mentions here and there. And the The Cain wasn't explained properly or really anything. It just made me frustrated that it didn't really give me something to take away.

So overall I just thought this book was extremely underdeveloped and frustrating!! Sorry if it didn't make sense but I tend to rant a bit when I'm this frustrated.
