



Heart Murmurs

R.R. Smythe

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Mia Templeton is dying. Or was dying. After receiving a heart transplant, she overhears her donor was a murdered girl of the same age. Whispers invade her head, she develops tastes for foods she once hated, and dreams so vivid, she feels they're someone else's memories. Once a quiet doormat, she's now flippant and confident. And her longing for the new boy at school is borderline obsessive.

Heart Murmurs Details

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Author : R.R. Smythe

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From Reader Review Heart Murmurs for online ebook

Lorraine says

I enjoyed it, but not all would. It is fantasy with literary mentions. Mia is fascinated by Louisa May Alcott and her book Little Women. She works for Beth who runs an all Alcott reenactment site. Mia receives a heart transplant and begins to hear whisperings not of her own making. She is brought into a world of underground tunnels and time jumping.. She also meets authors of the past through these tunnels.. I would say it is more a teen fiction book.

Christina Torretta says

While I did not dislike this book, the synopsis is not quite enough to go on. I was expecting what I read in the synopsis, to read about a girl that had some of the inclinations of the person that gave her a heart. Sadly, it's a lot more than that. A lot more.

What I did like was the personalities in the story. The characters do seem to jump off of the page. Or out of the headphones since I listened to this one. They are all in high school so it was pretty easy to remember and sympathize with the main character. She's a mouse and people are used to walking all over her; at least until her operation. But her personality did not do a complete flip. In most cases she spoke up for herself and that was odd, but it was the voices that she was starting to hear that really started to add something to the story.

Insert Morgan, the hot new kid that all the girls are drooling over! Mia isn't shy about trying to find out who he is. It's almost like she feels compelled to be with him but can't explain why. This portion was a little odd too but young love always is so whatever, I was willing to go with the flow. The strangeness is when Morgan and Mia actually meet and all kinds of weird, or weirder stuff starts happening.

This is the part where I started getting lost. Ever see Project Runway? It's an obsession of mine. Tim Gunn tells the participating designers to reel in their designs if they are getting too crazy and I feel like that's what needs to be done here. First we have the heart transplant, the reader has to understand where Mia was compared to is currently, get to know all her friends, her obsession with Morgan, her job and her obsession with Austin (although I get that), and on top of that there is this whole entire caste system that is thrown in!

I'm not saying I did not like it but wow, that is a lot to keep up with. The further I got into listening to the book, the more happens too! It is a really strange mixture of Alice in Wonderland meets The Hunger Games with a bit of Twilight in there because Mia cannot live without Morgan. Ugh... I hate insta love.

There's an entire portion that is all about Edgar Allan Poe. I love his writing. LOVE! Like I would stalk him if he were alive today, maybe not literally but still, I would think about it. This is just another added portion to ALL of the above. Why is this even in here? I get the literary part of it but there has to be a moment when someone like Tim Gunn says, can we please edit back some of this script, please?

So, really... it's an okay book but there's a lot in this. Like, a LOT. I wouldn't mind the story if it were spread out and there were some clues as to why things happen the way they do at the end and why people are making her fight, and who are these people anyway!? It's just too much.

Full audio review can be found at Audiobookreviewer.com

2.5/3

Lana *Lifeinwordsandlyricscom* says

Oh my God, this book is a mess. Guys, I don't even know what to say about this. It was the major case of "What the frack is going on?" for me. The idea was interesting, I liked the characters ok, but it never clicked together. Half the time I felt like I somehow missed some kind of explanation for what was happening, like maybe the author forgot to clarify a few things.

So there's this court, and upon seeing this word on the page, I naturally thought "Ah, so the fair folk are involved, ok". Right? Not even close. There's a total different court, with total different rules and I didn't quite figure out what the purpose of it is. It was kind of explained, but not really, I still felt confused. It would have helped if we had some kind of insight to Mia's thought process, but all we had in that department is how she misses being able to do all the stuff she did before and how she felt about Morgan. When it came to all the mystery behind the court, it's like her thoughts skipped right into knowing and understanding without the important part like including the reader.

I hate giving bad reviews, I really do but with this book I felt cheated. And the ending wasn't satisfying in the least.

Amel Armeliana says

I received this ebook copy from a giveaway that I won and can't wait to read it.

InD'tale Magazine says

Heart Murmurs is an unexpected combination of time travel, Alcott family history, the Underground Railroad, and gothic literature.

Read full review in the 2013 June issue of InD'tale Magazine.

Kendra says

This was a very interesting read. Mia has just undergone a heart transplant, and the changes inside her are pretty scary. She's hearing whispers, voices, feeling rage, and acting much more aggressively than she would have before. Before the transplant. Morgan is a new kid at school, keeps to himself, but he and Mia are drawn to each other. Of course, Mia works at his aunt's store, giving tours about the Alcotts, the real life sisters in *Little Women*.

Following Morgan to the underground tunnels one night, Mia finds herself in a whole different world, or a whole different time. Morgan in war clothes from long ago, and his sister? Louisa Alcott, dead for many many years, is there, as a war nurse. And then there's another girl, Morgan's love, and she's dying. As the pieces come together, it truly does make out for an amazing story. There's a whole other world, Conductors and Literatis and Couriers and rules and powers. Great story!

Review by Kendra @ www.FaeBooks.co.uk

Amanda Orick says

Heart Murmurs is a young adult paranormal novel full of mystery and intrigue. We follow a young girl named Mia as she struggles to accept the heart she received from a heart transplant. With her new heart she gains some new and odd talents. When she comes home she meet a strange man at her job named Morgan. He isn't like most people and she is soon to find out he is her destiny. Will their love survive?

I really enjoyed this book. I especially loved the twist at the end. This would be a good weekend read. I would recommend this book to anyone who enjoys this type of genre.

by Amanda F of www.FaeBooks.co.uk

Ginny Crouse says

Great read

I had no idea what this book was about before I started to read it, but was at once captivated. I read it in one day. Talk about imagination - the author certainly qualifies for the Literati.

Gerri says

A satisfying YA paranormal contemporary/ historical with some romantic elements. This story is also like a time travel, but not quite. Confused? Don't be. This author has a vivid imagination and an inspired way with her words, weaving a story that pulls you in, keeps you reading and reading until you have to finish the book. The events take place In Gettysburg PA, and yes, events of the past affect this future. The author sets the stage for the second half of the book, which is very imaginative. I await any sequels from Heart Murmurs, and know that they will be a treat. Anything from this author is good.

Gabby (What's Beyond Forks?) says

Full Review at: [What's Beyond Forks?](#)

This book was completely different from anything I've ever read before. It takes famous authors of the past that we all know and love and adds quite a twist.

Chrissy (The Every Free Chance Reader) says

Did I enjoy this book: I didn't hate it. I didn't love it, and I didn't quite get it, but I didn't hate it. Let me explain. No, is too much. Let me sum up. Nerdy high school girl works at nerdy Civil War reenactment site that happens to be NOT a stop on the Underground Railroad, but rather a magical mystery tunnel created and maintained by magical mystery super popular writers who happen to have magical mystery super powers. You know, like Lousia May Alcott's sister. Oh, and the nerdy high school girl had a heart transplant, so she hears the thoughts of her heart donor, who just happens to be – yep, you guessed it – a magical mystery super writer.

The grammar was fine. The syntax was fine. Smythe obviously knows a thing or two about literature. The thing is, well, I don't think the typical young adult reader has the literary knowledge to make this book meaningful. Yeah, sure, they've HEARD of Little Women and Edgar Allan Poe (hopefully), but unless they've got a working knowledge of the literary classics, they're going to find it difficult to relate. Mysterious Handsome Strangers are COOL (and sooooo 'in'), but if you don't know a lot about Louisa May Alcott's father, you're not going to much care why he hates a famous writer's dead dad, which means you're not going to be able to figure out an important plot point, which means even when Smythe tells you what happens you're not really going to be that invested.

I admire the sentiment: it would be awesome to write a book that rekindles a passion for the classics in young readers. I just don't think this is it.

Would I recommend it: Not unless you have both a significant knowledge of classic works of literature and the stomach for yet another teen romance...

Will I read it again: No.

As reviewed by Melissa at Every Free Chance Book Reviews.

(I received a copy of this book for review purposes.)

<http://everyfreechance.com/2013/09/re...>
