



Sanctuary

Caryn Lix

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Kenzie holds one truth above all: the company is everything.

As a citizen of Omnistellar Concepts, the most powerful corporation in the solar system, Kenzie has trained her entire life for one goal: to become an elite guard on Sanctuary, Omnistellar's space prison for superpowered teens too dangerous for Earth. As a junior guard, she's excited to prove herself to her company—and that means sacrificing anything that won't propel her forward.

But then a routine drill goes sideways and Kenzie is taken hostage by rioting prisoners.

At first, she's confident her commanding officer—who also happens to be her mother—will stop at nothing to secure her freedom. Yet it soon becomes clear that her mother is more concerned with sticking to Omnistellar protocol than she is with getting Kenzie out safely.

As Kenzie forms her own plan to escape, she doesn't realize there's a more sinister threat looming, something ancient and evil that has clawed its way into Sanctuary from the vacuum of space. And Kenzie might have to team up with her captors to survive—all while beginning to suspect there's a darker side to the Omnistellar she knows.

Sanctuary Details

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Author : Caryn Lix

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From Reader Review Sanctuary for online ebook

Pamela says

Holy cow, I loved this. I'll post a more detailed review and link in a few days after my feels have calmed down!

Update: Full review can be found [here](#).

Carrie says

Sanctuary by Caryn Lix is a young adult science fiction fantasy that also crosses over into the land of horror. The story centers around teenage Kenzie who has been raised in a world controlled by corporations and followed in her parents footsteps training to work for Omnistellar. Just having been made a junior guard Kenzie is working under her mother's command on a space station known as Sanctuary.

Sanctuary is run by a powerful AI and built in order to become a prison for young teenagers with superpowers that were deemed too dangerous to stay on Earth. When what seems to be a normal drill for the guards takes place Kenzie gets the feeling there is more to the simulation this time but it isn't until after her father leaves for Earth with a few of the other guards that it becomes clear the prisoners have found a way out of their cells but superhuman teens are the least of the worries on Sanctuary.

Alright, folks that normally follow my reviews are probably getting whiplash seeing a 5 star rating on an almost 500 page book, normally they would see me complaining about the pacing and the length being too much. Thankfully though Sanctuary is one of those rare gems that used every bit of the page count and I would have been ecstatic for more.

The world that Caryn Lix has built is just complex enough to make the story extremely interesting but she built it by peppering the story with details over the course of the book so it never bogged down the action. I was completely engaged in this one from the very beginning and impressed with the pace of the book all throughout.

Along with the wonderful world building the characters all seemed to be well fleshed out along the way. As more and more happens in the story I really felt myself caring about what was to come their way and on the edge of my seat waiting to see how it would turn out with little twists coming all throughout. In the end I found this one to be quite unique and well written and would definitely recommend checking it out!

I received an advance copy from the publisher via NetGalley.

For more reviews please visit <https://carriesbookreviews.com/>

Karlita | Tale Out Loud says

Full Review at Tale Out Loud | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

Actual rating: *4.5 out of 5 stars*

I decided to go blind on this knowing as little as reading the book's overview. The first few chapters were a bit tedious but undeniably a sleeper for all the next scenes to come. **So I'm not surprise that it's a dormant black hole that sucked me in without meaning to stop because I could exactly imagine the goriness of every scene straight from an alien movie**—not one from *E.T* but the legit *ALIEN* film series where badass Ellen Ripley fights off deadly-scary creatures while on space.

It all started with a routine drill where Kenzie is a junior guard on *Sanctuary*, a prison cell for superpowered criminal teens. With her Dad scheduled to leave for a training exercise on Earth with Jonathan and Noah, Kenzie, Rita and her Mom which also happened to be the Commander, were the only ones left to uphold *Sanctuary*'s security.

However, when a merchant ship distress call turned into something horrifying, while a prison break was in the making, the tension and danger was imminent not only to the space station itself but to everyone who's on Earth. **This automatically sets the story in motion and into a fast rolling action.**

In the midst of fighting the *unknown*, whether they were a superpowered anomaly or a citizen living by the rules set by the Omnistellar Concept, Kenzie, Cage and the rest found an ally on each other for them to **survive**.

Kenzie's character had a major shift, which was pretty obvious the way she empathized with the other prisoners. From being a loyal Omnistellar guard bound by rules, regulations and protocols, she knew deep down that there's an unfairness in the situation. As the story went on, I love how she developed a sense of independence and made a stand on her own decisions. She may not have a superpower like the other anomalies who run like the *Flash* or anything like pyro kinetic but her bravery is what makes her a badass character.

That same goes with Rune who was projected as calm and gentle but her shrewdness and ability was what brought their entire *sector* into safety for the majority of the time. And I couldn't say less with Mia. She may act tough in front of everybody but she cares a lot on her own way.

I also love the wonderful diverse cast of characters that presented the message of unity fighting for a single goal and realized that in times of difficult situations, whatever status they hold in the society, they're actually all but the same.

The injustices between corporate citizenship and government citizenship also didn't go unnoticed which is parallel to what is currently happening right now.

Though there were questions that didn't get answers in the end, which I think an author's intention to put some sort of **open-ended drama** that sway readers and have that longing to know what will happen next to Kenzie and Cage; are they going to explore-like *Star Trek* wandering into the galaxy? I don't know what to expect yet but I'm certainly excited for a second book.

Sanctuary is an eerie, thrilling and action-packed story that equally leveled the suspense and intensity of all sci-fi movies about aliens I have ever watched. If you are in for a ride and love to take on an adventure, I recommend you read this book and board the ship so you won't miss the fun I had in space.

*****Thank you to NetGalley, Simon Pulse, Fantastic Flying Book Club and Caryn Lix for providing me an eARC in exchange for a fair and honest review!**

Michelle says

Book review can be found on my blog here: <https://booksonthebookshelf.wordpress...>

Thank you to NetGalley and Simon and Schuster Canada for the free ARC copy of this book! I was so excited to receive an ARC of this book that I couldn't wait to begin reading it.

This book was awesome. It pulled me in from the very beginning and kept my interest piqued throughout the entire book. I read through it in just over a day, and would have read it in one sitting if I didn't have a few things going on. Seriously get this book, it was amazing! I loved it and devoured it, and I found that the pages were turning themselves.

This book follows the main character, Kenzie, a prison guard in training aboard the Sanctuary – a prison in space that houses super-powered and dangerous teenage criminals. Kenzie lives aboard this space prison, with her mom and dad and other prison workers, and it is up to them to make sure the prisoners do not escape and to protect people on earth from the dangerous prisoners.

On the Sanctuary there are 5 prison levels, that houses the criminals on each level. One day the Sanctuary is attacked by mysterious creatures, and Kenzie becomes trapped on one of the prison's main floors that houses the criminals. The criminals somehow manage to escape their cells and hold Kenzie hostage. She is terrified. Surely her Commanding Officer, which also is her mother, will come to her rescue? However, Kenzie soon learns that her mother will stop at nothing to follow policy of the Sanctuary, and that is to protect earth at all costs, even if it means sacrificing her own daughter!

What are these mysterious creatures that have attacked the Sanctuary and what is it that they want? What will the dangerous, super-powered criminals do with Kenzie now that they have her as a hostage? Will Kenzie escape?

Without giving too much away this book was amazing. I enjoyed reading this and it was a pleasure to connect with the main characters in the story.

Jessi (Novel Heartbeat) says

4.5/5

Fall down seven times. Get up eight.

Holy crap, this book was awesome!! To be honest I didn't know what to expect going in - I wasn't sure if I was going to like it or not, and after seeing it pitched as compared to the Darkest Minds, I was skeptical. Surprisingly, I was blown away!!

I wasn't too sure in the beginning, though - I wasn't a huge fan of the writing for some reason that I couldn't quite put my finger on. But the premise was super intriguing - a prison for teens with superpowers?! It had a very X-Men feel to it and I wanted to know more. However, I didn't get super hooked until THINGS started happening. And let me tell you, it was SO CREEPY!! I loved it so much! When the breach happened it had an amazingly disturbing Alien feel to it, and I was HOOKED! After that I was 100% engrossed in this book. There were certain scenes where I was all

and I COULD NOT PUT IT DOWN! I had to stop 100 pages from the end because um, sleep, and it killed me a little bit. This book was hella intense! Some of the scenes were super freaky and bone chilling and I was totally white knuckling it, you guys. It was give-you-goosebumps eerie!! Fair warning, though: This book is *gory*. Delightfully so (to me, heh).

I really liked the characters! I loved Rune and Alexei, and even stabby Mia (um, okay maybe her most of all). And I was surprised by how much I connected to Kenzie. She was a good blend of weakness and strength - she was a badass, but had her moments where she kind of broke down; but given the circumstances it was pretty realistic! I love that she stuck to her guns and always tried to do what was right against all odds. She was fierce and resilient! I loved Cage, too! He was steadfast and a great match for Kenzie.

Oh and did I mention there was some great diversity in the main cast? Rune and Cage were Chinese, Alexei was Russian, and Mia was Irish! There were some POC minor characters too!

I don't want to say much else without spoilers because I don't want to ruin anything! (view spoiler)

This book was so cinematic! I had no problem picturing everything in my head, and it was all so convincing and vivid. Kudos to Lix for bringing the world of Sanctuary to life! It felt like a blend of Alien and Gemina with a pinch of the Flash (the show) and Contagion. Highly recommend!

This review was originally posted on Novel Heartbeat. To see a breakdown of my assessment, please visit the full review here.

Aila says

"Where did my loyalties to the company end and my loyalties to humanity begin? Every nugget of truth I gave them about myself was against company regulations, but if there was a chance I could help, I had to take it."

Quick notes before review:

- I separate this book into two acts:

Act One: Corporatism

Act Two: Alien Entity

- Something with survival stories isn't quite clicking with me these days, because Act Two was basically a bunch of action with survival in mind against an unknown alien force.

- The thing about large amounts of action (which is definitely fun and exciting) is that it sacrifices relationship exploration, characterization, and world/story-building to make up for everything else that's going on. Because of this, I think certain interesting aspects of the story weren't drawn to their fullest potential.
- TAIWANESE LOVE INTEREST THOUGH YESSSS <3 <3
- But in all seriousness, most of the characters introduced did not have such distinct personalities, and even those came out as weak at times. I really couldn't get myself to care about them.
- The corporatism could have been explored more fully for me. Yes, the company is bad. But where is this rooted from? How did they develop in this future? How can the characters combat this? This aspect of the story is thrown away in the second half of the book when the alien variable is added.
- Main romance is quick-paced and insta-attraction. The good news is that both characters know and acknowledge this fast progression. I thought it was pretty enjoyable.
- Very fast-paced! Never a dull moment.
- Kids with superpowers are trapped in a space facility with aliens. Exciting, right?
- BUT, the superpowers weren't even used that often against the aliens, with the kids being more in favor of guns and technology in regards to actual combat (versus defensive abilities like invisibility). So for me, this wasn't as particularly exciting as I expected.
- I do still think action-orientated readers will enjoy this.
- Personally, my qualm with survival stories is that when trying to stay live is the most immediate conflict, this gives very little to what readers are reaching for. Am I continuing this book to see kids end the hegemony of companies on planets? Kill all the aliens? Now that the mc realizes Omnistellar is bad, what is she going to *do*?
- Well-written internal struggle between the loyalties of Omnistellar that Kenzie grew up with and newfound knowledge that the escaped prisoners of Sanctuary present to her.
- Content Warning: explicit violence

Made aesthetics over hereee: https://twitter.com/aila_1woaa/status...

Dianne says

Lots of action and some young, insta-romance and an all-powerful corporation lording over the solar system. **SANCTUARY** by Caryn Lix deserves to stand on its own merit as fresh and not be compared to books that have gone before!

Kenzie believes the corporation is everything. She has spent her lifetime training for one goal, to become an Elite Guard on Sanctuary, a penal facility for super-powered teens. When a routine drill becomes a hostage situation for Kenzie, she will learn that blood may not be thicker than corporate loyalty, as she is left to fend for herself.

Has she been fooled by Omnistellar's public face? Has the entire solar system? Kenzie will go against all she thought she knew in order to survive as an ancient evil permeates Sanctuary. The enemy of her enemy will become her unlikely allies as she must choose to stand with the prisoners in order to survive.

After a well-defined world is created, strap in and hang on tight for some fast-paced action and a chaotic bid for survival as Kenzie sees the truth behind the corporate Kool-Aid, discovers an unlikely romance at the worst time and fights evil in its most terrifying form.

Definitely a younger YA read! When the action starts, it is non-stop tension and movement, wonderful for holding a younger reader's attention! More mature readers may clamber for more character depth or some more dirt on the corporation, but the target age is going to find this magnetic and I am all for grabbing readers while they are young!

I received a complimentary ARC edition from Simon Pulse!

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For Reviews, Giveaways, Fabulous Book News, follow: <http://tometender.blogspot.com>

Melanie (TBR and Beyond) says

"We might be foolish. We even be going to our deaths. But at least we were doing it together."

Thank you to Simon Pulse for sending me an arc for my honest review.

Sanctuary was such a wild ride and I loved every minute of it. Space Prison? Check! Superhuman child criminals? Check! Conspiracy, Corruption and cool dystopian setting? You got it babe! What about a terrifying unknown presence stalking the people on the station? Don't worry this book has you there too!

I learned about this book back in January and immediately threw it on my Most-Anticipated of 2018 list. I've been really down for more and more sci-fi lately and this had a mix of dystopian with it (which is always good times in my eyes), so I was fairly confident going in that this was going to be my kind of book. I am happy to report - I was right on the money with this one.

We start off on some futuristic prison that is set in space - the reason being that they have some of the most dangerous criminal super powered kids on the station and they don't want them anywhere near Earth - that's pretty damn intense! I loved the setting - it felt very isolated and I could almost imagine how sterile most of it would be and just gave me this overall unfriendly feeling. We are introduced to our protagonist Kenzie very early on and learn that she is one of the younger guards on the ship, that happens to be run by both her parents. The story does a good job at taking the time to let us get to know the character, the setting and the general politics of the situation. I thought that was really important because it could have gotten confusing really fast once things really took off. I had zero problem following the story because Lix took that time at the start.

Things get moving when there is a prison break-out attempt and Kenzie is taken hostage by the kids. Things start to get crazy from there on out and it's a very fast ride after that. One thing I freaking loved is that this book seemed like we were going to hit the dreaded insta-love category almost immediately - We really don't! Yes, two teens are attracted to each other and clinging to each other but it's mentioned more than once that they are likely having intense feelings for each other because of the life and death situation they are being put under and they acknowledge that they don't have a clue who the other one really is and you will not hear any

undying love speeches in this one. It felt much more authentic this way.

I'm wary to say too much about this story because I feel like you should read it and let it unfold in all its fun glory. I should also say that if you are someone who is really hesitant about the sci-fi genre, don't be. This book is VERY accessible. There is no crazy jargon - you won't be lost. It's straight forward in that sense. It would be great for people who don't have an extensive background in reading sci-books. I ate it right up.

Overall, I would highly recommend picking this one up and the author is Canadian (that always makes me happy to see). The book is intense, rather than straight up scary and there is nothing offensive in the book so younger teens would be fine with this one I think.

Make sure you come check out my Facebook Book Group - link in profile and come talk to Caryn live next month.

Melissa says

This book is so good!! I couldn't put it down. Can't believe it's a debut?

It's an action-packed SF with a pinch of horror set in space, and it reads like an intense action movie: breathlessly. Can't wait to read book 2! ?

Thanks to the publisher for my e-copy of this book through NetGalley in exchange for my honest review.

Nicki Chapelway says

4.5 stars!

This book was sooo good! And soooo intense! I loved it soooo much!

I've been looking for a ya sci-fi horror thriller to read, and while this book read more like a super hero story for the first half, the second half certainly lived up to my expectations. Aliens were always jumping around the corners to say "boo!" I loved it.

Sanctuary is seriously so unique. I loved the premise and honestly I had no idea which direction this story would turn.

The characters were adorable. I loved them so much. They kind of reminded me of my own characters in A Certain Sort of Madness, and true to form as I neared the end of the book the adoring smile slipped off my face until I was just shouting, "stop killing my babies!" and "what are you doing to them? They were innocent!!"

I was a little worried about a potential relationship between Kenzie and Cage, that it might be like Stockholm syndrome or something, but it really wasn't. Cage was literally the most precious person ever and I ended up being more worried that Kenzie would hurt him than the other way around.

Content: Some mild kissing, violence, and language (mostly the language wasn't too bad, but there was one word that I docked the half a star for)

All around this was such a fun story and I would recommend it to everyone looking for a ya sci-fi horror thriller or even just a super hero story. I cannot wait for the next book!

Samm | Sassenach the Book Wizard says

Man, I freaking LOVED this book! It's like X-men or The Darkest Minds with Illuminae! The romance was SO GOOD! SO GOOD!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I cannot wait for the sequel!

Patty Smith says

Thank you to Netgalley, Simon Pulse and Caryn Lix for an ARC in exchange for an honest review. Rating 4.5 stars.

Okay, so I was sooooo into this book that I didn't notice I was reaching the end. And there had better be a sequel because I had no idea the book was ending. I mean, come on, give a girl a head's up! I literally thought I was missing chapters. I thought, hmmm I have an ARC where the author actually forgot to include the ending. But nope, that's the ending I'm stuck with until Caryn Lix decides to write another book.

I knew it was great from the first sentence, first page, first chapter. I was reading something else when I received the ARC and I was so excited I would read a sentence here or there, a paragraph if I was lucky and then I would get pulled away. But it stuck with me and I couldn't wait until I could just sink my teeth into it.

Here we have Kenzie, an Omnistellar company girl who tows the line. She is part of a team that includes both her parents and a small number of guards that protect the safety of a prison that houses humans with extra special powers. Not just any humans, but this prison is full of kids. Aliens visited Earth and when they left certain people were left with special powers. For those who abused their powers they were sent to a prison housed on a planet. Adults on one prison planet and kids on another. Both of Kenzie's parents have brought her up to respect the company, be loyal and appreciate the life that working for the company has afforded them. Kenzie is a little lost because her parents are getting a divorce and her dad is returning to Earth. Her mother is especially strict and when they are at work, very impersonal. Kenzie is now a junior guard and the company expects a lot from their employees, including, if necessary, putting their life on the line. I mean, all of these kids are criminals. They have abused their powers, endangered humans, had a trial and were sentenced to serve until they are eighteen years of age. A safety drill turns into a prison break and Kenzie is taken hostage. They need her to help them break out and get off this planet. Kenzie starts to realize that not all is as it seems. Maybe the company hasn't been as fair to these kids as she thought. They certainly weren't these animals intent on hurting humans as she was led to believe. How much of a hardened criminal can a 9 year old be? Yes, their powers can be scary but soon Kenzie's whole world starts to turn upside down as she begins to bond with them. Especially their leader Cage. It's not only his super speed that is making her heart race. But getting off the planet becomes a real priority as they learn that they are not alone. There is something far more sinister and far more alien that is hunting them down.

In case I didn't make it obvious I loved this book. The action was exciting, the monster scary and alien. The

world that Lix created was so interesting. Why did the aliens visit Earth? Why did they leave people with powers? We never get to know much about the alien story. I assume we will get to know more in the upcoming books. But there is enough juicy bits that I want to know it all. And the powers that people have. They fly, they read minds, they meld with computers, they are invisible and they are fast like The Flash. I loved all of the characters, their relationships and their interrelationships. Yes, Kenzie and Cage! What a sweet romance. But I wanted to know more about all of them, their backstories, all of it. Kenzie is a strong female lead. She is smart, strong and arc of learning that the world is never as simple as it seems is handled so well. Don't become too attached - characters will die so stay on your toes. This is making it into my classroom library because I think kids will love it. There wasn't much I didn't love except the ending. It was so abrupt it was like finishing in the middle of a sentence. Even if there are sequels shouldn't you close off the first book? It just was a little unsatisfying, but I still can't wait for the next book.

Lauren (The Novel Lush) says

2.5 ish stars.

I tried and tried, but I just could not get into this book. It seemed that every page, I stumbled over another common YA trope. I also could not connect with Kenzie at all. There were several times where she pat herself on the back for being smarter or better than others, or hinted that she had more to prove and they were jealous of her, then seconds later she did something incredibly stupid.

I also kind of found her narrative to be a bit clunky in that she walked us through every single one of her thoughts, spelled out, in case we didn't grasp her meaning. For instance when she was referring to herself walking through the prison and she mentioned something to the effect of: "But a teenage girl walking through the halls (me) would be noticed".

The blind faith in 'The Corporation' was also, I felt, a bit of a stretch. As a guard of supposedly super dangerous criminals, the highest ranking official ignored possible issues because they should 'have faith in the corporation'. In that kind of job taking *anything* for granted could cost someone their life, so it annoyed me a bit.

The vernacular also got a bit corny to me at times, but I didn't take that into account in my star rating because it's a YA book, and that could be the reasoning for it? Not sure, but several cliché statements were made, such as "xyz could be the end of the world as we know it." It felt very William Shatner.

The romance was very, very "Insta" and the second half of the book in and of itself seemed like it should have been a second book? The entire shift of the story changed, but in a way that felt kind of disjointed, like moving from season 1 to season 2 or book 1 to book 2, not the same story.

Overall, I didn't enjoy this book very much unfortunately, though I wanted to because SciFi is one of my favorites.

Empress Reece (Hooked on Books) says

10* Fave! This was soooo good! I'm absolutely dying to read the next book to find out where they're going to

take this big ass alien ship. I really need to quit reading books until the whole series is released because I don't have the patience to wait and I forget everything that happened in the first books.

Vicky Who Reads says

4 stars

This was such an awesome read!

I mean, first off, conceptually it's **such a great idea**. Y'know I have a fondness for prison guards switching to the other side, as well as sci-fi, teens with mysterious superpowers, space, mysterious aliens, corporations, and all sorts of other science fictiony awesomeness.

And this reads like such an **epic alien horror novel**, in a non-tacky way! It's not like that low budget alien horror movie with the laughable effects, but the super big expensive one that really makes you feel like you're gonna be jumped by an alien any minute.

I **loved the atmosphere**, and it's a really unique one that I haven't really seen in YA before. I mean, alien horror just sounds totally amazing, doesn't it? I was definitely on my toes for a lot of this and may or may not have glanced behind my shoulder once or twice (okay fine, multiple times).

And it was all **so intense** and the **action scenes are the greatest!** I was extremely thrilled while reading, and now I know that if I could have only one thing from Caryn Lix, it'd be her stellar action scenes! They are thrilling and engaging and not at all stunted or awkward sounding. They **flow seamlessly** and it's like all this action is happening and **you're right there with the characters** as an alien attacks you! So fun! (Who doesn't love being attacked by aliens?)

I just had so much fun reading those parts, especially as the book got more and more intense and mysterious as it neared the end. I loved the pacing of the second half of the book, but I do think that the **first half dragged a little too much** for me. But despite it seeming lengthy in page count, I do need to add that I gobbled this up anyways and it didn't really slow my reading experience.

It felt like Lix was dawdling a bit in the initial couple hundred of pages as she set everything up, and although I did **love reading about Kenzie's loyalty to the corporation**, I think it was incorporated enough in the second half of the novel's narrative enough that her loyalty would be established without the first half being so long.

It's kind of like **this novel is two pieces**--establishing Kenzie's corporate loyalties and setting this up, and then fighting aliens. I wanted these pieces to flow a little more smoothly together, which could have happened through condensing the first a bit.

The **corporation theme is super cool** and the only thing I wish was different is if it was maintained as a theme more strongly throughout the second half too. It ends up being used more as a motivator rather than something the characters actually want to change and fight against, and in this book it was like I was **holding my breath, waiting for the corporation fightback that didn't happen** because aliens became an (unfortunate) thing.

My rating would have been a half star or two lower if I didn't get confirmation from the author that there was going to be a sequel. There's a lot of themes that I felt were left not fully explored and unresolved and I would not have been satisfied with this book if it was a standalone. So rest assured that **there will be a book 2 next summer**.

Which brings me to my (new) analysis of this book as the first of two--great job. Really **great job of setting up the themes to be closed in book 2**. (My reaction would be completely different if this was a standalone.) I definitely hope the characters will revisit corporatism, as well as some other themes in the novel like...

The aliens. **How cool are these aliens?** I mean, we don't know that much about them still, but what we do know is really interesting and I love how Lix set them up in the scope of the whole universe. And they're a vicious thing to fight against, which makes it really interesting.

These aren't really your "Let's contemplate if they're friendly aliens!" type aliens, but I don't really mind it. Maybe I'm in a warmongering mood (y'know, they did kill and kidnap a bunch of people from the start), but this type of alien murder touches in with my ruthless side.

And although the alien plotline is temporarily fixed for now, I feel like there's a lot in store for the teens still, and there's still a bunch of mysteries behind the aliens. So--cool beans, right? I hope we see more of that in book 2.

I have to admit, but **I didn't really read this for the characters**. I read this for the corporations and alien fights and larger scope of the picture that's more commonly found in adult sci-fi, so although the characters were fine and not irritating, I don't really have much to say about them. Kenzie narrated the story well and the romance wasn't really that invasive so I didn't end up minding the attempts at character development. Not the book's strong suit, but nothing terrible.

Overall, I really enjoyed reading *Sanctuary* for all of the really exciting action scenes and badass alien fights. I'm really excited for Lix to begin exploring some of the more subtle and character based themes in book 2, and will definitely be reading the sequel next year!

If you love the sound of alien horror novels or something with fierce action scenes, then I definitely recommend you check out *Sanctuary*!

Thank you so much to Simon & Schuster and Netgalley for providing me with a digital review copy in exchange for an honest review!

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