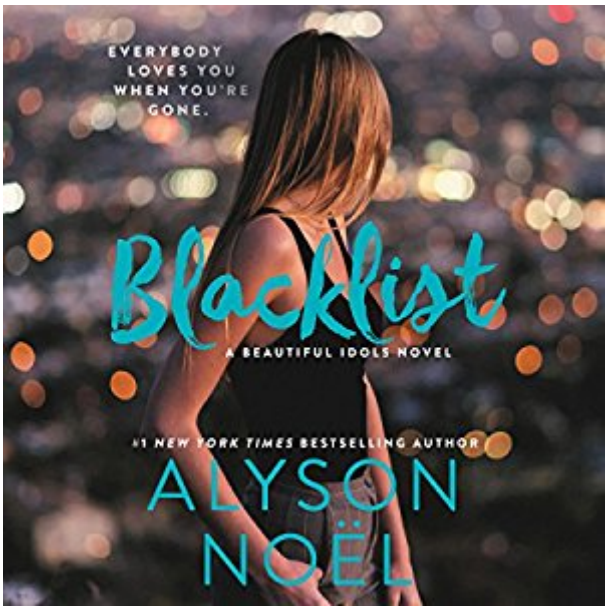
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Blacklist



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Synopsis

Internationally best-selling author Alyson Noel is back with Blacklist, the second book in her Beautiful Idols series, where celebrity worship becomes a dark and dangerous game. A glitzy, guilty pleasure for mystery novel addicts and fans of the Pretty Little Liars books and TV show. Wannabe reporter Layla, aspiring actress Aster, and fledgling musician Tommy joined the Unrivaled nightclub competition for the same reason - they knew winning it would change their lives. They just never imagined that somewhere along the way they'd become entangled in the disappearance of mega starlet Madison Brooks. Now each of them is smack in the center of a media frenzy that threatens to take all of them down. Banding together to clear their names, the fierce adversaries become temporary allies and vow to dig up the truth. But when Layla, Aster, and Tommy team up with an unsuspecting insider, they will find that some secrets are best kept in the grave.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I just love this series! Mystery, suspense, and Hollywood glamour all wrapped into one neat package. This book dives deeper into the underbelly of the darker side of Hollywood, one few people see. It's addictive, and you really cheer for the characters. I can't believe I have to wait a year for book 3!

Review courtesy of Dark Faerie TalesQuick & Dirty: The second installment in this YA mystery series delves deeper into the potentially deadly secrets lying behind the glamour of Hollywood,

raising the stakes for all involved.Opening Sentence: Breaking News: Discovery of Blood-Soaked Dress Leads to Arrest of Night for Night Party Promoter!The Review:This book has the glamour and glitz of Gossip Girl combined with the suspense of Pretty Little Liars. It was an addictive read, although I still donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t know what the endgame of the story is. Reading this book felt somewhat similar to watching the mid-season finale of a television show.One of my favorite things about this book is that it alternated between the individuals trying to solve the murder and MadisonÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s story. (No, this is not a spoiler, you find out sheÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s alive in Chapter one). The switches gave the story an intensity that it otherwise would not have had. While I liked the mystery, it was starting to feel a little dragged-out toward the end. ThereÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s also a secondary mystery that is a bit creepy.There were a lot of narrators. It was told in third person so it wasnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t difficult to follow the story. However, the fact that Layla, Aster, Tommy, Trena, Madison, and Mateo all had POVs meant that the reader followed the story from every possible angle. Additionally, the story moved along at a very quick pace. This combination lead to an almost overwhelming amount of information sometimes with only a small amount of time to process it. The fast pace made for a very quick read.I ended up liking most of the characters more than I expected. The author has a talent for realistic dialogue and interactions. I adored AsterÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s relationship with her younger brother and her scenes with her parents were unexpectedly emotional. I didnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t understand why Mateo was included in the story since he contributed very little to the murder mystery plot. However, I generally dislike unnecessary love triangles so my dislike of him is partially due to that. Other than him, I enjoyed seeing how the characters interacted with each other and figuring out each of their important secrets. IÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢m very intrigued to see what happens next with Trena in particular. I honestly have no idea who masterminded the kidnapping, although I do have my guesses. (Even if my list of possible suspects is essentially as long as the character list for the novel).Overall, I thoroughly enjoyed reading this book. It was exciting, engaging, and dramatic. I liked that it delved deeper into the underbelly of Hollywood, of what secrets and lies exist behind the glitz and glamour. IÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢m not a huge fan of how abruptly the book ended but I will definitely be reading the sequel. If you enjoyed Gossip Girl or Pretty Little Liars, youÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢ll probably enjoy this one as well.Notable Scene:Tommy bit back a grin and took a slow sip of beer. Layla had no patience for small talk. HeÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢d learned that the first day theyÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢d met, when heÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢d made the mistake of trying to engage the cute blonde whoÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢d rolled up to the Unrivaled Nightlife interview on an electric-blue Kawasaki. That first meeting hadnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t gone well, but back then Layla had hated Aster too. And

yet, here she was, determined to find some way to save her.Tommy pressed his forearms to the table and leaned toward her. It was time he stopped fantasizing about a relationship that would never be and focused on the real point of the meeting.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Still canÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t get in to see Aster.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• Layla sighed. ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Who knew county jail was tougher to breach than the VIP list at IraÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s clubs?ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• She frowned. ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Not to mention how IÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢m pretty sure Trena knows more than sheÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s letting on. But every time I bring it up, she insists on talking around it. ItÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s like sheÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s determined to block me and I canÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t figure out why. After all, IÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢m the one who fed her the clue about Ryan Hawthorne. Maybe she needs a reminder.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•FTC Advisory: Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins provided me with a copy of Blacklist. No goody bags, sponsorships, ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“material connections,ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• or bribes were exchanged for my review.

3.5/5 starsBlacklist is the second book in the Beautiful Idols trilogy. The series is YA mystery.The main narrators are Layla, Aster, Tommy, Mateo (Layla's ex), and Trena (reporter). They are all told in 3rd person POVs.The first book ended with a big cliffhanger.I'm not sure how I feel about so many narrators. It gives the reader insight into all angles of the story. But I find it does not let me really connect with any one narrator. Plus the 3rd person POVs make it harder to connect. I actually wish that we only got Layla and Aster's POVs.To me the book was a bit too long. But the story was definitely much more interesting than the first book.I actually really enjoyed Blacklist. However, I wish that the mystery of what happened to Madison was not dragged out over all three books. Usually in a mystery series there would be a mystery, but it would be solved in the first book. Then there would be a new mystery in the second book. I like the story. But I want the mystery to be solved already.The book ends with another cliffhanger ending. The last part of the book was exciting. But I am not happy that the mystery wasn't resolved. I am glad however that the reader was given some idea of what happened to Madison. But I wanted more.Overall, the story was pretty good. My favorite parts were when a bunch of the narrators were together. So when the POVs switched the story was not interrupted. I will definitely have to read the final book because I am dying to know who the guilty party is.Thanks to edelweiss and Katherine Tegen Books for allowing me to read this book.

In the second book of the dramatic Beautiful Idols series, the stakes are raised --- will these young stars rise or plummet to the ground? Layla Harrison's blog is losing subscribers as she refuses to

broach the topic of Aster. Tommy’s blissful life is only getting better but he can’t forget Layla... Aster must find out who is framing her before it’s too late, and Madison? She may not even be alive.Blacklist definitely has a better plot, but it just isn’t as explosive as Beautiful Idols. Yes, things have "gotten more intense", however it takes awhile for anything of interest to happen. The relationships between the characters certainly shift heaps, we see frustration, love, and support, bonds are made and broken more than once.Madison is a hot topic in this book, so much of what is hinted at in Beautiful Idols is revealed, specifically information about her. Each character is haunted by different things; Tommy’s career is at a stand still, Layla must respond to anonymous threats or be dealt with, and Aster is daunted by the threat of jail for a crime she didn’t commit. We see more of Ryan too, and he has changed a lot from his first appearance in the series.This book answers many questions, but perhaps there aren’t enough questions asked to keep the book flowing as the same few questions pop up all the way through the book. Is Madison dead, is Aster going to get out of jail, who is Madison really? Nonetheless, I thoroughly enjoyed reading Blacklist and I think it’s done a brilliant job of setting up book three, which is sure to be explosive considering the amount of ammunition Blacklist has generated and not used.

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