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Model Spy (The Specialists Book 1)



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Synopsis

(The Specialists, Book 1. An award winning spy series.)Teen genius Kelly James is in a lot of hot water. A whiz with computers, she agrees to help her college RA, David, uncover some top-secret information. After all, she doesn't have many friends and David has always been nice to her. It doesn't hurt that he's super cute and irresistible, too. All she has to do is hack into the government's main computer system. But a few hours later, her whole life changes. She is caught and taken in for questioning, only this isn't your run-of-the-mill arrest. Rather than serve a juvenile detention sentence, she accepts the option to change her name and enlist in a secret government spy agency that trains teen agents to go undercover. As if that wasn't overwhelming enough, she discovers that David works for this agency as well! And before she even begins to understand what is going on, she's sent on her first mission as an undercover model. And who better to partner with than David himself!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This novel starts out very strong with a wonderful opening and a clever hook, but

didnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t really stand up to the expectations set up in the opening. It felt a bit to me like the author was dumbing down the story for a younger audience. ThereÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s no problem with the plot- itÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s fast-paced and has an intriguing villain, but the writing itself fell flat for me.That being said, I loved Kelly as the lead character. SheÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s smart as can be and just a little bit on the klutzy side, so seeing her morph into an undercover model and fight her natural tendencies was a fun ride. She gets flustered when sheÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s nervous and is just about the most unlikely of teens to become a spy, but her intellect and drive to succeed ultimately serve her well.I really wanted to see more of the other teens in the program. The author does a wonderful job of setting up this diverse and interesting cast of characters, but they really donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t feature much into the main plot line and we only get a small glimpse of what they can do. This book is the first in a series, so perhaps we see more of them in a later book, but I really missed having these characters developed into part of the plot.Overall, this was a fun read that had lots of untapped potential. It ends up reading a little predictable, but the main characters are likable and the plot is fast-paced. ItÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s worth a quick read.

When it comes to Model Spy and its four sequels my advice is to not even bother. First, the main character, GiGi. The beautiful, misunderstood genius is intriguing at first, but quickly becomes boring, predictable, compulsive, annoying, and often gives me urges to slap her in the face and rip my own hair out, and has many moments when she’s just downright stupid, insensitive and mean to her friends. She is pathetically trusting, particularly of TL, often saying he knows best and wants the best for her and doesn’t have to tell her everything, etc., which may sound sweet, but really makes me want to slap sense into her. Her sort of maybe vaguely possible boyfriend, David, is cheesy and far too perfect and sensitive, and makes GiGi stupid and lamely lovestruck, but only for about 10 pages a book, because he’s hardly ever there and Greenland decides to break them up and make problems constantly, offering few. As for the plot lines, the bad guys are stereotypical and flat, with no interesting backstory and seem to be bad just for the heck of it. I think she tries to add a "plot twist" at the end of every book, but only 1 or maybe 2 are actually good and not totally predictable from the first 20 pages. The first and second books are passable, the second a bit better than the first, but the third, fourth, and fifth are painful and forced, Greenland probably pretty much out of ideas. I would probably compare it to trying to go down a slide in shorts, you know, when you get stuck halfway down and end up awkwardly and painfully pushing and squeaking your way down.Basically, don’t waste your time on this crap. If you’re looking for a good book in this genre of

spyish action, I would definitely recommend Ally Carter’s Heist Society or Gallagher Girls series. They’re so much better.

Bought this for my granddaughter, so far she likes it, she is into "spy" stuff, so far, so good. Came in ahead of time.

Cute would be the perfect word to describe Shannon Greenland’s novel, Model Spy. Kelly, a beautiful and gifted teenager, is caught breaking into a high security government system to help her crush David find information about his father. She is given the choice to either to join an elite group of teens who work as spies for the government or face a jail sentence, so Kelly decides to join the teenage spies. What Kelly finds there isn’t quite what she expected,David involved in the program, they have to do physical training, and she’s almost immediately thrusted into an operation that involves her going undercover as a Model with David as her photographer.Model Spy is one of those quick, vacation-reads books. It’s light and fast paced but not overbearingly so. The characters are lovable, I’d have loved to see the other characters developed more, but, I guess the subsequent books will deal with that.The plot itself was pretty simple if not a little predictable, however, I was found that this worked for the story. The one thing that I didn’t really like was the fact that, while enjoyable, it didn’t really leave an impression on me. I liked the characters but wasn’t able to love them as much as I would have liked.If you’re looking for a quick read and something to satisfy the spy in you, this is definitely your book.

This is a fun book and a fun series, featuring a teenage computer genius who ends up becoming a spy. There are quite a few great characters in this series, especially Bruiser (a great female fighter) and Beaker (a great female chemist). I’d like to see more of them, they only had peripheral roles in this book.The great characters and good dialog make up for the minor deficiencies in the book. The plots are fairly contrived (why exactly did the evil dude put the encrypted text where he did - apparently, as in James Bond movies, just so the heroine will have something to do...), and the computer code listed in the book is just gibberish. An entertaining read though.

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