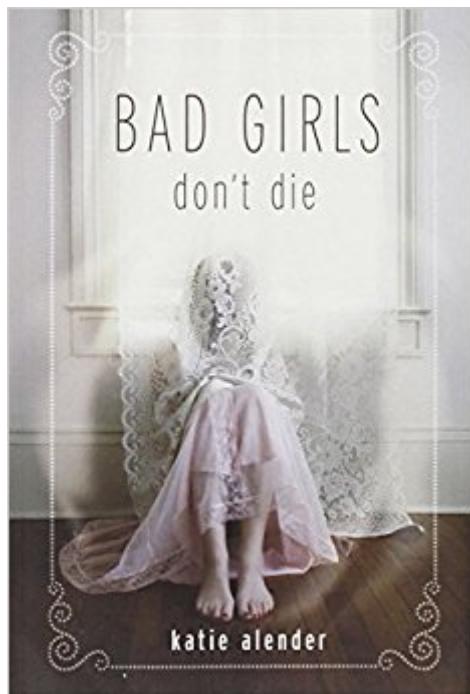


The book was found

Bad Girls Don't Die



Synopsis

When Alexis's little sister Kasey becomes obsessed with an antique doll, Alexis thinks she is just being her usual weird self. Things get weirder, though, when their house starts changing. Doors open and close by themselves; water boils on the unlit stove; and an unplugged air conditioner blasts cold air. Kasey is changing, too. Her blue eyes go green, she starts using old-fashioned language, and she forgets chunks of time. Most disturbing of all is the dangerous new chip on Kasey's shoulder. The formerly gentle child is gone, and the new Kasey is angry. Alexis is the only one who can stop her sister -- but what if that green-eyed girl isn't even Kasey anymore?

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 630 (What's this?)

Series: Bad Girls Don't Die

Paperback: 352 pages

Publisher: Disney-Hyperion; Reprint edition (June 22, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1423108779

ISBN-13: 978-1423108771

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.8 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 454 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #36,669 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #58 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Family > Siblings #66 in Books > Teens > Mysteries & Thrillers > Fantasy & Supernatural #73 in Books > Teens > Mysteries & Thrillers > Romantic

Age Range: 12 - 18 years

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Grade 6
•Although it begins like the average high school misfit story, Alender's novel quickly takes an unexpected turn. Alexis, a self-described anti-cheerleader, defiantly embraces her role as bad student and social outcast, skipping class and spending her time in the darkroom, until the increasingly odd behavior of her little sister, Kasey, draws her into a world of evil spirits and dangerous games. At first, inexplicable dreams and eerie balls of green light hovering around Alexis's house seem like fringe occurrences in a story otherwise concerned with family,

friendship, and a tentative romance. But soon, bizarre happenings take over, and Alexis comes to realize that Kasey is demon-possessed and hell-bent on murder. It's difficult to reconcile a teen coming-of-age story with a ghost-populated murder mystery, and Alender succeeds somewhat awkwardly. However, Alexis's story is compelling, and her voice is funny and authentic despite the creepy situations in which she finds herself. A good additional purchase for girls who like to be scared a little—but not too much. —Emma Burkhart, Springside School, Philadelphia, PA Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.
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High-school junior Alexis seems to be the class bad girl, complete with snide remarks, rebellious attitude, and listless motivation. At home, her overachieving mom has alienated her more laid-back dad, while her doll-obsessed, 13-year-old sister, Kasey, periodically morphs from a blue-eyed, ordinary girl to a green-eyed, evil child plotting against others in their small town. What has possessed Kasey and their family? Alender's first novel is both a mystery and a trip into the paranormal, in which a child taunted years ago returns to exact revenge for her violent death. It falls to Alexis to sort out the historical details and protect not just herself and her family, but also the descendants of the girls implicated in the original tragic death. With just enough violence, suspense, and romance to keep readers turning the pages, this is a promising debut for a new young author and will be a popular addition to any YA collection.

Grades 7-10. --Frances Bradburn --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I blew through this great little story in half a day, unable to stop until I reached the final page. Ms. Alender has created a complete experience for the reader, filled with fleshed out characters, a vibrant backdrop and an appropriate mixture of teen angst, romance and suspense. Alexis and Kasey (sisters) have a dynamic and realistic relationship which adds the appropriate level of tension and emotion to the more action based scenes. The protag in this story is equal parts funny, quirky, charming, snide, intelligent and rude, an interesting combination of qualities but appropriate for someone of her age. What kept my interest piqued was her responses to situations did not always marry with my expectations and it was clear that the character surprised even herself on a myriad of occasions. There was a true evolution of character that transpired between first and last page and Alexis' metamorphosis from closed-off, snarky, troublemaker to thoughtful, caring and selfless friend proved as big an element of the story as the unfolding mystery. This transformation also added a

level of depth to a story which could have easily veered into campy lit. Though at times a tad predictable, it's easily forgotten as you breeze through the well crafted narration and realistic dialogue. On more than a few occasions I found myself "talking" to Alexis as she navigated the maze of puzzle pieces in her quest for the truth, saying "no, not that!" or "you've got it all wrong!" or "get out of the room!". In my estimation, when you have moments like that, when you feel the character is real enough to shout at, you're reading a well crafted piece of fiction. End note: I've read quite a bit of Y/A lit, as it is my job to do, and this is by far one of the better stories.

This review is posted at both and Goodreads. Alexis is a high school nonconformist. She doesn't have any close friends and is not involved in school activities. She does speak her mind but this mostly lands her in hot water. Her one true love is photography. She comes from a dysfunctional family. A father who would rather be anywhere else but home, a mother who is a workaholic, and a younger sister that is getting stranger by the day. Alexis is worried about her sister, Kasey. Kasey doesn't remember things, she steals other student's genealogy reports and sometimes her blue eyes turn green. Also their house is acting strange, cold air coming from the vents when AC is off, water boiling on the stove when burner is off, doors opening and closing on their own. Is she going crazy? Alexis gets help from two unlikely sources, a popular cheerleader, Megan, and the class president, Carter, who just might become her boyfriend. With their assistance Alexis begins to unravel the story's mystery, Kasey is possessed and the spirit that possesses her is out to get revenge by way of murder. The story is well written, the pace is right, and there is plenty of suspense. Alexis makes a good protagonist. Even though her family is not perfect she loves them and will do anything to protect them, even go up against a murdering spirit. As Alexis gets to know Megan and Carter she learns a very good lesson that you can't judge a person just by their "title", cheerleader or class president. The one thing I found disappointing was that the book was told through Alexis so we don't get any insight to what Kasey was going through. I highly recommend this book and I plan on reading any other titles in this series.

Love love love all these books... of course Katie Alender is my number one author her writing is so detailed and all the characters are awesome... Waiting for more from Katie need more.... have all her books... she's awesome Recommend to all....

The prose wasn't oh-my-god-where-have-you-been-my-whole-life perfect but it was so entralling and fit so perfectly with the story being told I couldn't help but get sucked into the life of Alexis, a

fifteen year old girl who has difficulty dealing with other people because, according to her, they're always trying so hard to be something they're not and they end up never sounding real. I could easily devote a whole essay on how much I liked Alexis - even though it took her eons to figure out something that I'd got from the get-go, but hey, she didn't get a blurb of her own life - and how different she was from most other YA main characters. She wasn't a mary sue, nor was she one of those "anti-mary sues", girls so tough you can practically see their penises, no. Alexis is just a girl who's not very easy to be dealt with, but then again, neither are most people around her. And when her little sister Kasey starts acting weird - weirder than usual - she realizes something, something dangerous, is up. I'll stop here because I could gush about this book all day long and not make my point across, so I'll just say that if you like YA's, or if you just like horror or even if you just like awesome main characters that act like real people, THEN YOU OWE IT TO YOURSELF TO READ THIS BOOK RIGHT HERE. NOW. READ IT NOW. I DARE YOU.

The story kept me very engrossed and overall it was completely satisfying. It's hard reading novels where the characters are in high school because most of the dialogue ends up so cringeworthy but this one wasn't too bad in that aspect. I do think the romance subplot felt forced and unnecessary and Alexis' slight "I'm Not Like Other Girls" attitude almost turned me off reading in the beginning but ultimately I really enjoyed this book!

I read this series within about 2 weeks because i love it so much. After the first book you do not know where it could go but yet there are 2 other books. i was worried that the ghost/demon situation woudl get old by the third book but all of the books are very fast paced and you can get into them and read them in one sitting (which i did with the third one). The main character is very relatable and i found a lot of her characteristics reminding myself of me. This is a very good series and i would recommend it to a friend.

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