



The Medusa Plot

Gordon Korman

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Are you ready to save the world? The bestselling series returns with an adventure spanning 6 explosive books, 2 secret-filled card packs, and a website that places readers right in the action.

Thirteen-year-old Dan Cahill and his older sister, Amy, thought they belonged to the world's most powerful family. They thought the hunt for 39 Clues leading to the source of that power was over. They even thought they'd won. But Amy and Dan were wrong.

One by one, distress calls start coming in from around the globe. Cahills are being kidnapped by a shadowy group known only as the Vespers. Now Amy and Dan have only days to fulfill a bizarre ransom request or their captured friends will start dying. Amy and Dan don't know what the Vespers want or how to stop them. Only one thing is clear. The Vespers are playing to win, and if they get their hands on the Clues . . . the world will be their next hostage.

The Medusa Plot Details

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Author : Gordon Korman

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From Reader Review The Medusa Plot for online ebook

Reading Vacation says

Get ready for another action packed installment of the famous 39 Clues series. You thought our heroes Amy and Dan were done after discovering the secret of the 39 clues? Well guess again. This new series is very exciting, with loads of suspense and mystery thrown in. Cahills are being kidnapped by an evil organization called the Vespers. Amy and Dan have to follow the Vespers demands or the unthinkable will happen.

Amy, now seventeen, is stronger and smarter than ever. Amy is amazing as she quickly solves puzzles and organizes Cahills from around the world. Dan, now thirteen, seems withdrawn and a little moody in this book. Perhaps this is because he is haunted by the 39 clues hunt. I love how well Amy and Dan work together in their quest to steal the Medusa. It's not as simple as it may sound!

From the very start, it is apparent that the Vespers are evil masterminds. They have been plotting against the Cahills for 500 years. These Vespers are determined and I am anxious to see what their next move will be. While their leader, Vesper 1, is ruthless, I can't help but wonder WHY. There must be some deep dark secret from Vesper 1's past that explains it all.

I am so glad to see that this series is continuing on in a new light. It's guaranteed to be a huge success.

RATING

4 Liked

COVER COMMENTS

So cool with the Medusa snake hair! I love how The 39 Clues covers the Medusa face. Well done.

Dorian Becerra says

This book is about two children Amy and Dan who must save their family from kidnapping but what will be the ransom. I like this book because it has a lot of action and drama just what I like and the story is so fascinating. I would recommend this book to my brother he likes these types of books and will enjoy it.

Jo says

August?!?!?! I HAVE TONWAIT TILL AUGUST?!?!?!?

Anastasia Antonova says

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Product Details

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Series: 39 Clues: Cahills vs. Vespers Series, #1

By: Gordon Korman

Summary: The clue hunt is over, two years have passed and Dan and Amy are back in school. Their au pair, Nellie is away at school in France (for culinary lessons, of course), Uncle Fiske is off and the teens are basically taking care of themselves in the newly rebuilt version of Grace's mansion. Amy even has a boyfriend! Everything seems to be doing fine when all of a sudden Cahills start disappearing. Even the school bus with Dan and Amy on it is attacked. The two manage to whip the attackers into shape, but when they get the message about their family members being kidnapped and they will be killed if the younger family members (all from the clue hunt) do not follow all directions. The only other "family" that knows about the clues and wants all that power are the Vespers. The person ransoming the Cahills is Vesper 1. With the help of the cousins, Amy and Dan start a new search for whatever Vesper 1 wants in exchange for their loved ones. It leads them into an art heist for The Medusa and a few other wild adventures. The two travel through Italy gathering a different type of clue.

My thoughts: I love this series. I was actually hoping that it would end up being 39 books, but know that would get redundant. I enjoy the adventure of Indiana Jones type searches with the historical information thrown in. This book is no different. I enjoyed the quick pace with bits of history thrown in. The discussion of art and art history was tied directly to art heists and several close calls. This gives me an opportunity to learn while I root for my favorite duo. Also, there is historical information that I haven't heard much about. It gives me an excuse to look up what "really" happened to the person the book references. In any other situation, I would not even think about it. The difference between this book and previous 39 clues books is that it's not just Amy and Dan anymore. All of the cousins are working together for a common goal. They get along and each strength shines through. We are now free to love all of the family, instead of being suspicious of all motives. Also, this book is a little darker than previous books. Dan is depressed, the Vespers are completely ruthless, and there are outsiders that are getting into trouble without the Cahill training. I wonder if we know who Vesper 1 is. I've enjoyed the fact that we don't know yet. That means there are more books to come! I've really enjoyed these quick reads and can't wait for the next version. (5 stars)

Obadiah Culley says

In the realistic fiction novel *The Medusa Plot* by Gordon Korman they start by getting a message like they always do from Vesper #1 and the message continues them on a long trip through Italy meeting up with friends and finding enemies. The two-main characters, Dan and Amy Cahill, are brother and sister both of them are alike but they have some key differences, like Amy would never do anything risky Dan on the other hand would do something risky just for fun. Amy is very smart and can study and memorize very easily, so finding and solving clues is no issue for her. Dan has a photographic memory. They are the perfect problem-solving team. In this book they are surrounded by their family and they are forced to go and get a hidden object from Venice Italy.

I liked this book because I like mystery books so I would try to solve the problem before the characters did. Then you get more into the book and want to find the clue. I disliked how many different characters they put in the series because then you have to know all the names and who they go to and what they are like. I would rate this book a 5/5 and if you like realistic fiction mystery books, this would be a good book for you.

Cathy says

You never quite know with this series what you're going to get book to book because the authors change, but I thought this was one of the better installments. I liked the slightly more mature tone, it was appropriate after everything these kids have been through to acknowledge that they're pretty traumatized and to deal with that. But it's still simple enough for younger readers as well. It's still a bit silly, the idea that these kids could rob a major museum with a day of preparation is just ridiculous, and why would Amy's small-town boyfriend know secret military information that the Cahills didn't, and why wouldn't any of the Cahill adults get involved when so many family members got kidnapped (I know, just like every story where the kids are the main characters, adults don't exist unless they're convenient).... But it was exciting, and clever in a lot of ways too. And the use of history was done with a pretty light touch and was very interesting, not something that all of the authors in the series manage quite as well. I still really enjoy this series as the perfect stepping stone between The Magic Tree House and Dan Brown type books when it comes to delivering fun stories with a lot of cool information mixed into the telling. I think a lot of kids are enjoying the mix of mystery and history too and I hope that it intrigues them enough to continue reading historical thrillers in the future.

By the way, I'm very disappointed to see that these lovely books are printed in China. I've always thought that the quality publication made them really nice gifts, but I'm much less inclined to choose them now that I've noticed that.

Dempse Kb says

Such a good book! Loved the previous series, this one is so far even more exciting. My son was worried about Gordon Korman being the author because his school MADE him read "Schooled" this summer, and he felt that was extremely preachy. He hates preachy. No time for preaching in this book... it moves really fast! I read it on a plane so it had my undivided attention (except for the soda my daughter spilled, and then my son... and then ME... Yes, we have the klutzy gene.).

GK did a great job describing the scenery and action. I felt like I was with Amy and Dan as they traveled from the US to Florence, to Rome, to Lake Como! It helps that I've been there long ago. Of course, I never robbed a museum or crept through a Roman tunnel with a key-light! Now I want to go back and find all the places in the book. This series will no doubt go all around the world, and my old guide to world travel, (visit locations from James Bond) will be replaced with this series!

Cyndy says

I CANNOT WAIT THIS LONG!!!!!!

Maythin Kyi says

It said about 2 siblings who are the members of the most powerful family in the world, the Cahill family. When 7 of their relatives are kidnapped they got to do whatever Vesper One say to get them back. One mistake, one will die.

Achala says

Dan Brown meets Spy Kids. For something aimed at teens or tweens, it was interesting. A quick, breezy read. I'll probably catch up with the rest of the series in between bigger, weightier books.

Denisa says

Just read the synopsis. Dan is 13? Two years passes eh? Doesn't that mean Amy is 17? Whoas, hard to imagine man. can't wait to read... though I have to read Vespers Rising first ^^

Barb Middleton says

Dan and Amy have to rescue seven Cahills who have been kidnapped by the Vespers. The two travel to Italy where they have to steal a Caravaggio painting called, Medusa, from the Uffizi Museum. The clues lead them next to the Colosseum in Rome.

Book one is vague on plot. It isn't clear why the Vespers kidnapped that many people. I found this novel less funny, less believable, and more violent. Amy has a boyfriend and Dan is more serious. Dan also betrays his good friend which I thought was out of character. The two aren't stealing from family members but are now stealing from others. Also, Dan considers lighting a match after drenching three men in gasoline. Another character is shot and the bullet has to be removed by other kids. This tale is definitely darker than other books. The novel has no ending – it's not clear what the Vespers want except to manipulate Dan and Amy. Fans should enjoy all of the action.

Mary Jo Garcia-Brown says

I just finished listening to this first book in the second 39 Clues series on the way back from a trip to Pennsylvania this weekend. I find audiobooks are a wonderful way to pass the time in the car, and books that are action-packed like the 39 Clues are especially riveting. The story kept me awake as I drove six hours in the dark.

That said, I'm losing some of my enthusiasm for this storyline. Now Dan and Amy Cahill are having to band together with some of the very relatives who were trying to murder them just a few books ago in order to save their friends and family members from the evil Vespers, a group bent on destroying the Cahill family and stealing its most prized treasures.

Dan and Amy are two years older than they were at the end of the first series. Amy now has a boyfriend and has to learn how to negotiate trying to have a "normal" teenage relationship and being a Madrigal -- which means she periodically must drop everything at a moment's notice to go off on a dangerous adventure to the other side of the globe. She finds that it's hard to have her cake and eat it, too, at least until her boyfriend learns the truth.

Then there's young Dan. He was greatly changed by the events of the first series. His normally glib demeanor is still there, but there is a darker side to Dan, too. He's clearly suffering from a sort of PTSD and copes with trauma by withdrawing from the world and those around him.

The other characters are all still here, but somehow their having to "play nice" with one another has taken away some of their edge. I'm not sure the Vespers, as sinister as they are, make quite the nemeses that Ian and Natalie Cabra did in the first series.

Ginny says

This book wasn't quite what I was hoping for, but I am still a fan of the series. The Medusa Plot had a more somber tone than previous ones. In the other books Dan and Nellie often added comic relief. Not so in this one. This time, the author brings out a darker side to Dan. I didn't like that Dan and Amy were made to steal and do other things to break the law in this book. In the original series, when they took things, they were items that belonged to their family. Here, it was stealing for the sake of the ransom demands. It reaches into a gray area between right and wrong.

Is anyone else wondering who Vesper One is? The story seems to be leading you to think he's Arthur, but then his past character wouldn't match his present one. I'm wondering how they will bring Ian's dad back into the story line as well.

Mike says

Completed audiobook on a 5-day road trip with my 10-year old.

We liked the continuing adventures of Dan and Amy Cahill, helping to save their post-39-Clues extended family from the intent-on-world-domination Vespers organization. The books are sort of "Jason Bourne lite", as Amy and Dan (now 12 and 15, I think) are able to move somewhat freely around the world despite being in the crosshairs of Interpol. And everybody they know are a little too willing to support them, but hey, these were designed to be middle-grade adventures.

The learning opportunities about art, history and geography get a little muddled on audio, which is unfortunate, because that is the only opportunity The Youngster and I get to share these -- he now reads Dilbert instead of books for his own age.

Ahmad Sharabiani says

The Medusa Plot (The 39 Clues: Cahills vs. Vespers #1), Gordon Korman

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Mith says

2.5 stars. The extra half star to round it up to 3 is for the sheer fun the previous books were.

Not quite the page turner I was expecting. Oh, it was action-packed alright, but it somehow felt a bit lackluster compared to the previous 39 clues books. Where's Riordan when you need him?!

Amy and Dan are, once again, racing against time - this time trying to save the lives of seven of their lot who have been kidnapped by the mysterious Vesper One. He/she needs Amy and Dan to steal certain priceless art, now lost to the world in exchange for the lives of their friends. This *obviously* sees the Cahill siblings travel all over the world to complete their mission.

Question - Why *Amy and Dan*? Why not the Kabras or the Holts or the Starlings or *anybody* else? What is so special about these two? I know a little suspension of disbelief is required here but I find it hard to digest that seven people, including three adults, are kidnapped before you can say 'jackrabbit' and it's up to two teens to save them.

I dislike how everything conveniently falls into place for Amy and Dan - they get away with stealing a highly guarded painting right from the museum, breeze through another heist - this time from an art collector's house where there are several security guards present, escape Italian police by disguising themselves in a blonde wig and "dorky" glasses and live through bomb explosions, shoot-outs and kidnap attempts. I mean, COME ON!

The book ended with absolutely no resolution. There was absolutely no progress throughout the book in spite of the Cahills being constantly on the move - there was no difference in their situation from page 1 to page 224. At the end, their friends are still being held hostage and Amy and Dan (while wasting many pages thinking about how the other sibling has changed since the Clue hunt and wondering if they have changed as well) still have no idea how to save them or who Vesper One is.

I wasn't satisfied.
