



Neptune's Tears

Susan Waggoner

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London, 2218 A.D. Seventeen-year-old Zee is an intern empath. She's focused on her job, poised for a great career—until one day an attractive patient undoes her hard-earned calm. As an empath, she cannot afford such distractions, but neither can she stay away from David, even when she discovers he's one of a mysterious alien race. As London comes under attack by anarchist bombings, and as Zee struggles to get a handle on her unusually strong psychic abilities, David starts pulling away. Although Zee's sure he's attracted to her, David has secrets he cannot share. But it's too late for Zee. In *Neptune's Tears* by Susan Waggoner, she's losing her heart to the gray-eyed alien boy, and she's determined to follow him—no matter how far it may take her.

Neptune's Tears Details

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From Reader Review Neptune's Tears for online ebook

Sarah says

(Source: I received a paperback copy of this book for free on a read-to-review basis. Thanks to Daphne from Winged Reviews, and Piccadilly Publishers.)

17-year-old Zee is a healing empath, which means that she works in a hospital and uses her special gifts to heal people.

One day she is sent to see a patient who is being difficult, but when she enters the room she gets two surprises. The first is that she is strangely attracted to the patient – David, and the second is when he tells her he is an alien.

Aliens have lived among humans for a while, but Zee hasn't really met many. David's being an alien isn't the biggest problem though as Zee finds herself falling in love with him. Love is very detrimental to an empaths career as it messed with their ability to feel things, and falling for David puts both Zee's heart and career at risk.

David has even more surprises in store for Zee though, and Zee's adventures are only just beginning. What else is David hiding though? Why can't they be together? And what does the future hold in store for Zee?

This story was okay, but I think it's probably more suited to a younger reader, maybe age 8 – 15, as the story seems quite simplistic, and the pace is quite slow.

Zee was an interesting character. She obviously cared a great deal about her work and her patients, and had absolutely no intentions of ever falling in love, least of all with an alien. It was nice to see how Zee's feelings totally took her over, even when she didn't want them to, and how swept away she was by her new found love for David.

I didn't really get that much of a feel for David, other than knowing that he was secretive and clearly hiding things from Zee. This theme continued throughout the entire book, and although the relationship between the pair was sweet enough at times, this dishonesty set alarm bells ringing for me.

The storyline in this book was okay, if a little unbelievable at times. David's coming-out as an alien was a little weird, but nothing compared to the major bombshell that was dropped right at the end of the story, leaving us with an ending that was part cliff-hanger, and part 'to be continued...' This book is obviously just the first half of Zee and David's story, and leaves the reader with a lot more questions than answers, so if you want to read this, be prepared to have to read both books, as this is more like part 1 and 2 of a story rather than two stories in a series in my opinion.

Overall; a fairly tame sci-fi/romance story, probably best suited to a younger audience (ages 8 – 15).
6.5 out of 10.

Lucy says

This book is so different to anything I have read recently and I finished it in one sitting. It mixes elements of

sci-fi, dystopia and paranormal, but I'd hesitate to give it any of those labels because the premise is so inventive.

Susan Waggoner's London of 2218 is at once futuristic and yet reassuringly familiar. Medical science has extended human life-span considerably, Britain's public transport problems have been resolved by the installation of a super-efficient vactrain (vacuum train) network and terrorists have invented horrifying shock-wave bombs, a silent, invisible weapon that destroys people's internal organs. Oh, and humanoid aliens are visiting from the planet Omura. Yet (I was relieved to discover!), you can still buy Branston Pickle and Maltesers and browse second-hand bookshops. London is still a multi-cultural, buzzing city and residents escape for day trips to the seaside in Brighton. It was a joy to read something with familiar landmarks for a change. With her light touch Waggoner has created a believable futuristic setting, without getting bogged down in the sci-fi mechanics of it all. She has also steered clear of the trope of oppressive governments and uprisings we've seen so much of lately in YA dystopian fiction.

I found the central character Zee McAdams's role as an empath particularly fascinating – she works in one of London's hospitals, forming a mental bridge with patients and guiding them through pain management and healing. It is there that she meets David, a handsome and mysterious alien from Omura. Actually, he comes across as a bit geeky, with his obsession for learning about Earth's culture, but in a cute way. Endearingly, Zee thinks she's immune to falling in love – until it happens to her. Once 'pierced' by her attraction to David, she can never make it unhappen. But things aren't going to be simple for our star-crossed lovers – Romeo and Juliet had it easy by comparison! Speaking of Romeo and Juliet, Zee and David do fall in love very suddenly, something I've always found irritatingly unrealistic in fiction (sorry Shakespeare!). However, because of the way 'piercing' is described (when empaths feel attraction for or fall in love with a patient, an involuntary and undesirable occurrence that impedes their work), in this case at least it seems more likely in the context.

Rapid romance aside, there are some unforgettable characters – I loved Zee's friendship with her ageing patient Mrs Hart, and with her two girlfriends, feisty, independent Rana and sweet-natured Jasmine. And there is one corker of a twist right at the end that blows everything wide open. Be warned – you will want to read the sequel right away.

I also really like the author's take on writing fiction, who says in her author bio on the Piccadilly Press website: 'In my heart of hearts, I believe all stories happened somewhere and sometime. The writer's job, like Zee's, is to shut out daily distractions to describe that other reality.'

Jacklyn (ReadingBliss) says

3.75 stars

I enjoyed this book regardless of the fact that it's not written as well as some authors' works; it's a short read at just over 200 pages and is easy to fly through on simplicity alone, which is exactly what I felt like reading (simplicity aside). However, unless you are a true fan of this type of plot and you enjoy reading practically everything inclusive within that genre and plot context (like yours truly), you will probably lose interest because the world building is cool, but minimal, the character and plot developments are lacking, and an insta-love is also present which I know irritates many. This book, which is the first in a duology, is not for everyone so I would probably rarely recommend it unless you are in high middle grade or a freshman of high school. The most irritating aspect of this novel-by far- was the author's choice to alternate between first and third person narrative. For maximum effect and entertainment, it should have been strictly told in first person. Also, the cover is not as symbolic as it could've been to the story. As the art does relate to the story, it is a fleeting insight into the story rather than a summarizing essence of it's entirety. Pertaining to the story itself, it's a sci-fi genre because it has aliens and space travel, but those elements are so "light" in the story's

telling that it's really just about a girl with a little world building that deviates subtly in ways other than our own. I did, however, like the glimpses of humanity from the perspective of this author because while some things are obvious, the writer added a creative take on things I wouldn't have originally perceived in the same fashion. Although the romance is an insta-love story (as I mentioned), the actual romance is more about pining over being star crossed lovers (without the lover part because it is very PG) with lover boy absent for half the book or so. There is also not a lot of development to him as his identity is maintained mysterious with the explanation that because he is an agent from another world on temporary assignment, he can never divulge more about who he is. I say with full confidence, the ending was by far the most thrilling aspect of the story and I am excited to find out what happens next!

Emma says

REVIEW BY PETER 8:3

Neptune's Tears is a love story between the two main characters Zee McAdams and David Sutton but as many other love stories things don't go quite to plan. It is based in the future, David is an Alien and Zee is a human empath who fall in love after meeting in A&E.

Zee McAdams is the main character and she falls in love with David Sutton. Throughout the story Zee becomes emotionally attached to David and soon can't stop thinking about spending her life with him but there is a few difficulties along the way from terrorists to separation.

My favourite part of the book was when the two went on a date to an epic sounding cinema where the seats float and rotate around the screen. I enjoyed this part of the book because I could strongly visualise the scene.

My favourite character in the book was Mrs Heart who was one of Zees patients who gave her advice when she needed it and shared stories that you could visualise. I liked the character because she was kind and shared life advice with Zee.

I thought I would not like the book because of its genre (Romance) but I actually quite enjoyed the book because I thought it would be all Lovey Dovey but that wasn't the case. It had quite a lot of action including bombs exploding.

There wasn't anything I would change about the book because it Leeds you up to thinking something but then twists what happens suddenly and I quite liked the idea of that.

I probably would read the work of this Author again because it was well written and provided a good twist at the end and left the book on a cliff hanger so it could be continued. Neptune's Tears keeps you wondering what happens and you start making things up in your head.

I would recommend this to others because I enjoyed the book and I think other people would enjoy the book as well. I think it suits the age group of 12-16.

Out of five I would give the book A solid 4 because I thoroughly enjoyed Neptune's Tears.

5secondstomadness says

At first when I found this book in the library I was looking forward to read it as the blur was good and I thought it would be different. However it did not live up to my expectation. (warning spoilers)

The beginning is not that bad, it starts it up well and had a good flow to it also introducing the characters well and also a bit of back story, but also this overuse of the back story made the text hard to understand some of the time as you had no idea if you were in Zee's present day or in the past.

As this story is a love story the romance is very good and there is a good bonding between David and Zee. It is evidence that the author Susan Waggoner put effort in. but even though the whole promotion of this story was a love story it was more focus on the terrorist attacks than actually the two mains but it was clever that we saw some bonding during these attacks so at least it was not all hopeless.

A well developed aspect of this story was the characters they were very likable and charming especially Mrs Hart who was one of my favorites. They were very promising as characters but there didn't seem to be some point to some of them at times like Piper who was in for the first few chapters and was not in it again which is a shame as she was a strong character and could have helped Zee by having this connection when they both realized they share a common factor ... love. also there was not much development to the characters especially towards the end especially what happens to Rani as I did not get an emotional response to her death which I should have but in saying that they were entertaining.

Now one part that I found oddly written was the last quarter it seemed to move too quickly and was far too disjointed for my liking, there was no structure and felt as though she was trying to cram as much information (that could have been developed) in a number of pages. Also the whole badminton match where all the neighborhood came together was really pointless. I've played badminton for a couple of years and I would not say it is the most epic event that she was trying to do in this story. It seemed as though she was trying to do a west side story showdown with shuttlecocks. It did not make sense.

I know that I have pointed out a lot of negative points but overall this book was an OK book and readable and there were some scenes that were very gripping like the shock bomb scene were well written as they put you into the mind frame of one of the victims. The story was good but the main characters were not used fully and some of the reasons they can't be together were not just and the whole futuristic feel felt like it was set in the 21st century with a few more gadgets. Also some scenes just drag on and on while others not enough.

I may consider reading the second book to see how it ends but it won't be a loss.

oliviasbooks says

You are probably going to love Neptune's Tears, if you kind of *liked* Singing the Dogstar Blues by Alison Goodman, *but* wished ...

- that the young adult sci-fi novel was not one of those *damned* stand-alones with a real ending
- that Mavkel was more human looking, had a hot, hot body and an 'Englischer' name like Paul or Oscar
- that Oscar-Mavkel's and Joss' heart-string-tucking friendship was replaced by a forbidden instant-and-forever-love that would swallow up at least half of the plot and the majority of the heroine's thoughts.

Eden Grey says

I would not recommend this book to teens, or even fans of YA fiction. It is written in such a way (that I'll get to soon enough) that it would have more appeal to fans of adult sci-fi, British mysteries, or especially adult British sci-fi.

Here's why:

There is something very off about this book. Pop culture references that don't belong in the future, already uncommon English idioms spoken by aliens, uncharacteristic dialogue, strange devices that make the future setting awkward and unbelievable (Shock Socks? Email sticks?) all make Neptune's Tears an awkward attempt at a dystopian romance set in the near future on an Earth that has seen the arrival of extremely human-like aliens.

The tone of the entire novel is distant, sparse, and disconnected. Teens will not be able to relate to the characters. The dialogue is not realistic. The characters' actions are barely convincing. The protagonist's thoughts and inner dialogue is fine at times, but it would have benefited from being told in first person to jump that gap between the reader and the story.

The plot was believable at first, but quickly spiraled into something strange and convoluted. I didn't believe for a second that the love interest was actually an alien. I didn't understand why the best-written parts of the story were the protagonist's visits with the dying old lady. I didn't feel like her interactions with her friends were things that teens would actually do. The romance was very bland.

And finally, the twist at the end came far too late. There were no hints leading up to it. It came out of nowhere and made no sense and will infuriate readers. No spoilers, but seriously-it's not good.

Steph Sinclair says

This is going to be one of those rare times where my rating isn't very indicative of my personal feelings of the quality of a novel. (Savor this moment because I don't see it happening too often.) Here's the thing about *Neptune's Tears*: if you are a veteran Sci-Fi reader, chances are it will be lacking in complexity for you. However, if you are a noob to the genre or a younger reader or a reluctant reader, this novel may be perfect for you. Unfortunately, I don't fall in the latter category and I don't think I'm a part of the target audience for this book, but I can still see a lot of redeemable qualities for *Neptune's Tears*.

The Good:

- The writing isn't bad at all. Even though I mentioned I think this book would be great for younger readers, I didn't ever feel like Waggoner was talking down to the reader. This was especially evident with the science she used to set her world up and the descriptions. The world is described in a clear manner without info-dumping on the reader.

-*Neptune's Tears* features a diverse group of characters. One thing I really love is when a book has other nationalities or cultures present. So many times in YA lit it's the usual all white cast with the occasional token character. But this book takes place in London and has a variety of nationalities present. In fact, the main character even travels to Indonesia later in the book. It's apparent that Waggoner wanted her book to be more of an accurate representation of the world in the future, and the best way to do that was to actually include the rest of the world.

- The plot moved along swiftly and the twist wasn't predictable. Looking back at my reading experience, I'm

a little surprised that I *didn't* see the plot twist. There were a few times when I wanted to DNF *Neptune's Tears*, but I was very interested in seeing what David's big secret was, so that kept me reading until the end.

What didn't work out for me:

- The pacing was entirely too fast. There were times when I long stretches of time had passed by, but I didn't realize it because the story moved at such a rapid pace. This caused the most issues with the romance. One minute Zee and David are meeting and the next they are falling in love. At first, I thought it was insta-love and I HATE insta-love 99% of the time, but then I realized a few months had gone by later. I felt like the book could have used better transitioning and been smoothed out more in that department. Also because the pacing was so fast, there were pages where it *should* have been interesting but weren't because the scene felt like it was stuck on a weird Fast Forward type setting. It was like I was skim reading a book without skimming. That, in turn, led to boredom.

- The world building wasn't very complex. This is a personal preference, but in order for me to be fully sucked into a world, I need a lot more details. *Neptune's Tears* gives the reader the basics, but I don't feel it fully tapped into its potential. I would have liked more info on what it meant for Zee to be an Empath. How did this skill emerge in the future world? (Speaking of the future world, I would have like more info on that in general.) If falling in love was so discouraged if a person was an Empath because it negatively affected their job, why was Zee and David's relationship seemingly the exception? There was so much that was left unsaid and the author generally stuck to things that only pertained to Zee. And that would probably be fine for some readers, but I require a little more.

- I couldn't relate to the characters. I'm not sure what it was, but these characters did nothing for me. I think this might go hand in hand with things not being as fleshed out as I usually prefer, the characters included. Everything was strictly on a need to know basis as it pertained directly to the story and plot with very little wiggle room. I never really felt I got a good sense on who Zee was as a person. What were her likes besides her job and David? What did she like to do for fun? For me, there was no real substance. There were simply these characters and they live in this world and, oh hey, here is the plot. Bam, wham, thank you, Sam.

The bottom line? I really believe this novel could have used an extra 100-150 more pages and if things had been more detailed, I could have really loved this one. That being said, I do think *Neptune's Tears* would be perfect for reluctant readers. It's short, has a decent plot and not overly complex.

ARC was provided by the publisher. Thank you!

More reviews and other fantastical things at [Cuddlebuggery Book Blog](#).

Sarah says

Neptune's Tears is the start of **Susan Waggoner's** Timedance series which is set 200 years into the future. Zee is training as an empath and working at a London hospital where she helps patients heal using her abilities. She loves her job and enjoys helping people so the last thing she is looking for is a relationship, especially when falling in love could have a devastating effect on her powers. She meets David when he is injured and under her care in the hospital, although it is forbidden for her to get involved with a patient she

finds herself unable to forget him even when he has been released to return home. As their paths keep crossing they fall naturally into a relationship but there is more than one obstacle in their path. The main one being that David is an alien and he is only on Earth for a limited time before he will have to return to his home world and leave Zee behind forever.

I found **Neptune's Tears** was a really fast paced and fun book to read, there was a lot I liked about the world that the author has created and I was fascinated by the idea of empaths who are able to heal people with their powers. I enjoyed reading about a future where no major disaster has taken place and the world hasn't fallen apart around our ears, it meant the author was able to include lots of cool technology without having an apocalyptic feel to the story. That doesn't mean lives are easy though and there are a group of anarchists who seem determined to cause terror amongst the population and they have quite terrifying weapons at hand to do it with.

I found the main characters very easy to like, Zee is an admirable and brave young woman and I enjoyed learning about her abilities. She spends a lot of time with one patient in particular and I really liked the grandmotherly role that Ellie played in the story. Often YA books don't have positive adult role models so it made a nice change to see that here. David is more of a mystery and we don't find out much about him until close to the end of the book but I still liked him and I wanted to dig deep and learn all his secrets.

Although there were a lot of things I liked about the story I do think there was room for improvement. This is a very short book and I really felt it could have been so much better if certain points had been expanded on further. I really wanted some background information on how some humans had gained empathic abilities, where did these powers come from? Why are only some humans effected? I just needed a bit more depth to the world building to make the story more believable. The other main issue was with the romance between Zee and David. I actually quite liked them as a couple but because their romance is given very little page time and we only find out about most of the dates they go on because Zee discusses them with Ellie. Seeing everything second hand like that made their relationship feel like a major case of instalove when in reality events played out over a time period of several months. I really would have liked to spend more time with them as a couple so that I could have felt more connected with them and invested in their relationship.

In spite of those problems I did enjoy reading **Neptune's Tears** and I am looking forward to seeing what happens next. There was always something happening and I seemed to fly through the book incredibly quickly. There is also an interesting twist towards the end that I can't wait to see play out in the sequel **Starlight's Edge**.

Stephanie (Stepping out of the Page) says

Neptune's Tears is the first book in the Timedance series by Susan Waggoner. It's set in 2218 and follows a young empath in a London hospital. For such a quick read, the pages inside this book contain a lot. The story mainly revolves around Zee's career as an empath, her powers related to this and her romance with a boy, David, who one day appears at her hospital.

Zee was a very decent, relatable character. I liked what we got to know about her and particularly admired her for her love of her job and the care she wanted to give to the people around her. I thought Zee's job was really interesting and it was the best, most interesting part of the book for me - I look forward to learning more about her work in the next book. David, her love interest was mysterious and likeable even though we didn't really get to know all that much about him until the end. The thing that makes me somewhat undecided about the characters inside this book is that there is a huge case of instalove. As soon as Zee meets David in hospital, they are in love. I really dislike instalove, but I realise that in the case of this book, instant attraction

and love seems to be somewhat the norm and part of being an empath. The characters also needed this instant love in order for the book to progress as quickly as it did. It wasn't a major problem for me as it's something to do with Zee being an empath, but I still couldn't bring myself to like or accept the fact - it felt too rushed.

As I mentioned, a lot of things happen in this book. I seemed to speed through this story - it's definitely easy to read and a page-turner and I think even the most reluctant reader would find it difficult not to rush through this one! There isn't a dull moment in this book, something is always happening or something being revealed. Though the pace was good as it left no time for boredom, I do think things could've been slowed down a little more so that they could be developed or elaborated upon. I don't want to include any spoilers, but the huge revelation at the end has made me very excited for the next book - the plot has huge potential.

Neptune's Tears has a lot of good ideas behind it - it's clear that Waggoner's imagination is certainly not dull! For the most part, this was a very enjoyable, captivating story and I am looking forward to reading all of the drama in the next instalment!

Laura L says

Actual Rating: 3.5

Emily Elizabeth says

It's always been hard for me to write a review for a book that I feel pretty neutral about. This is definitely the case for *Neptune's Tears*. It's not a bad book, but it's not mind-blowing either. I'm not a big sci-fi fan, but the summary of the story really caught my eye and the cover is absolutely glorious. I was sure I would love this-- and to an extent I did, but I had several issues with the story that took away from my overall enjoyment.

Zee McAdams is an empath. She uses her ability to bring comfort to hospital patients. Her future in her career looks very bright, as she's close to becoming one of the greatest in her unit. As an empath, Zee is forbidden to fall in love. Love and other strong emotions can cause an empath to lose their focus and distract them from their patients. Therein enters David, the alien boy, that she immediately takes interest in. As the city of London begins to fall apart all around her and her empath side struggles to stabilize, Zee must decide where her future lies.

It's the romance that really killed me. I liked the characters, even if I didn't completely understand them and I wanted Zee and David together, but the insta-love was unnecessary. They seemed to be together for like two days and were already declaring love, but that may just be because of how short the novel is... The timeline is a bit sketchy and the pacing obscure, especially when compared to other novels of its genre. While the events that were unfolding were very original and captivating, it all happened too quickly. I don't usually ask for things to drag, but this book definitely needed some fleshing out. Had the author taken her time with the plot and written a couple hundred more pages, I think *Neptune's Tears* could've easily become one of my favorite sci-fi/fantasy novels. The depth is the major issue here. It felt like the author just skimmed the surface.

It's definitely a book that's hard to put down, though. Through all the negatives, I found that I finished the book in one sitting, in a couple of hours. The author composes a truly imaginative story and her writing style really accentuates that. I can't put my finger on what made it hook me in, but Waggoner did it well.

I like sci-fi, but generally the genre lies outside of my comfort zone. I tend to shy away from them, for fear that I won't understand it, or won't love the books as much as the general populace. What really got me about this book is that it is a sci-fi novel that isn't extremely complicated. It's an extremely easy and light read. Because of this, I believe the audience will vary in reader types. I know it won't always be well-received because of the lack of intricacy, but I think it makes for an entertaining read nonetheless.

The ending is extremely abrupt--so much so that I thought my ARC was missing some pages. It's disorienting and annoying because nothing feels settled at that point. I will definitely be continuing the series because based on the first book, I think the author has a lot of talent and I hope that the rest of the series will be as strangely addicting as *Neptune's Tears* was. This was a good book, that was a just bit short of being great.

I received an ARC of this novel from the publisher for my honest opinion and review.

This review can be seen here on my blog as well.

Kazzy Stallwood says

Neptune's Tears was a rollercoaster of a read. It was fantastic, heartwarming and heartwrenching and I loved it!

The story is told from Zee's point of view – a 17 year old empath working in a hospital in London. She loves her job, and she is good at what she does but the world as she knows it gets turned upside down when she meets David Sutton.

I really liked Zee. She really grew as a character the whole way through the book. At first, she was prejudiced against Aliens but as she fell in love with David this disdain was washed away and replaced with nothing but love and respect for him, in spite of him pushing her away for her own protection. She falls for him head over heels; he makes her feel warm and safe but she gets confused when he starts to push her away whenever things start to heat up between them. She eventually begins to understand that this is for her own protection and by the end of the book you really understand why – but it's such a lovely journey to go on with her, because even though David is not supposed to be with her, he always finds a way back to her. She deals with everything that is thrown at her in such a diplomatic way and I found myself really liking her as a character.

Normally I hate gushy romance; especially teen gushy romance because it's nearly all the same. This was somewhat different; though some aspects were the same. I guess it's because this is such a different sort of novel – a time travel romance – which really grabbed my attention and made me keep reading. Sometimes I found myself a bit underwhelmed at the descriptions in the book; it is written in a very short and to the point kind of way, but not in the sort of way that would make you not able to conjure up images in your own imagination. Maybe it's just because I'm used to reading heavier, darker fantasy novels, but this did annoy me at times.

I really really did like this book. If you like YA fantasy/sci fi/semi dystopian novels then there is a very good chance you'll like this. If not, read it and you might change your mind.

My rating : 5/5. A very, very, good read!

(By the way, as a rule I never ever use spoilers in my reviews. I feel that this takes away the whole mystery of reading a new book and discovering the story within for yourself!)

Jo says

Set a couple of centuries in the future, this novel follows Zee who works as an empath in a hospital and her initially reluctant relationship with an alien. I found this difficult to get into, I didn't find the characters particularly fleshed out and it was a bit of a slog. Not for me.

Annie says

Review from <http://books-anovelidea.blogspot.com/>

I'm disappointed, dear readers. I really had high hopes for this one, considering it was a sci-fi romance and involved aliens and empaths and whatnot, but my hopes were not fulfilled. There was a lot of potential, after all, it takes place on earth 100 years in the future. This would be the opportunity to let your imagination run wild, but it never really gets to that point.

Here's what I liked: I love the idea of empaths. Basically, in Waggoner's world, an empath is a person who works in the hospitals and feeds people different memories/emotions/scenarios in order to help the healing process. That's so freaking cool! Empaths have strong minds and read people's emotions, and I really wonder why this isn't a character type we see more in YA fiction. Ergo, that's a good base for a strong character (though that's not exactly what happened). I also really liked the idea of an alien invasion that wasn't destructive. The aliens (might I add that our love interest in an alien, because he so totally is), come to earth to learn about our cultures, literature, and art forms and I really appreciate seeing peaceful aliens for a change. Lastly, there were two scenes that really stood out for me. The first was a scene where our leading couple goes to the theater and sees a play that's done without gravity, then they get to partake in the anti-gravity fun. I really liked that scene because it was the biggest futuristic scene in the book; it's exactly what I expected from a futuristic story. The other scene was when Zee (our protagonist) was helping an Olympic swimmer give birth. The reason I loved this scene so much was because it really showed what Zee was capable of doing as an empath and the way she had control over her abilities.

And here's what I didn't like: The story itself was very over dramatic and maybe that's because it was so focused on the love story, that the rest of it didn't even matter. Now, I'm all about a good love story, but I couldn't get into this one. It seemed very shallow to me. I felt like there wasn't even development between the couple. It was simply: girl meets boy, they fall in love immediately (and really, they don't really even know each other), girl loses boy, drama ensues (lots and lots of useless drama), then boy makes a confession at the very end that caused me to laugh and not in a good way... There was a lot of other stuff going on in the story, and I really wish those other conflicts and events were the focus. There are anarchist attacks going on, I'd like to hear about that instead of a middle school feeling love story! It really seemed like it was going to take an exciting turn about 75% into the book, but that ended up being pushed aside for the romance aspect. Ugh. Sorry, I feel like I'm on a rant, but I promise I'll stop after this next point. In any writing class you'll ever take, your professor will say the words "show, don't tell". These are important words! I don't want to hear a summary about an important conversation, I want to see the characters getting mad, having emotions, and all that jazz. There was A LOT of summary and maybe that was the reason I didn't like this book. Rant over.

So those are my thoughts. All I wanted was a cool sci-fi book with romantic undertones and now I'm sad. Yes, there's a sequel in the future, but its very unlikely that I'll pick it up. Now, you guys might have a

completely different opinion than I do, and that's totally okay. I'm never going to tell you guys not to read a book. But if you do read it, I'd love to hear what you think!

Sorry this post got a little rant-y, it happens. But, on the happier side, I'm doing a giveaway on Tumblr for my followers so make sure to check it out (<http://books-anovelidea.tumblr.com/>)! Until next week!

-Annie
