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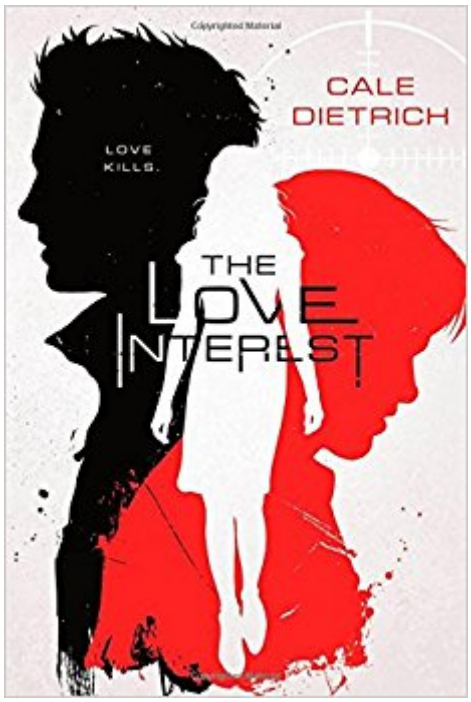
The Love Interest



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Synopsis

There is a secret organization that cultivates teenage spies. The agents are called Love Interests because getting close to people destined for great power means getting valuable secrets. Caden is a Nice: The boy next door, sculpted to physical perfection. Dylan is a Bad: The brooding, dark-souled guy, and dangerously handsome. The girl they are competing for is important to the organization, and each boy will pursue her. Will she choose a Nice or the Bad?Both Caden and Dylan are living in the outside world for the first time. They are well-trained and at the top of their games. They have to be Ã¢â ¬â œ whoever the girl doesnÃ¢â ¬â„¢t choose will die. What the boys donÃ¢â ¬â„¢t expect are feelings that are outside of their training. Feelings that could kill them both.The Love Interest by Cale Dietrich is a gay YA thriller that is non-stop action from start to finish.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Dietrich both flips and examines certain stereotypes in regards to gender and sexuality while also serving up some high stakes spy adventures."--Entertainment Weekly"This sci-fi young adult novel is the answer to all of our clichÃƒÂ© love triangle woes. Caden, the kindhearted boy-next-door, and Dylan, a brooding bad boy complete with dark poetry and a leather jacket, are in competition for the genius JulietÃ¢â ¬â„¢s heart. The winner gets the girl, and gets to live out his life in peace. If youÃ¢â ¬â„¢re looking for something funny, action-packed, and romantic this summer, then this is your next read."--PBS Newshour" ThereÃ¢â ¬â„¢s a Hunger Games vibe here to be sureÃ¢â ¬â ¢a deadly teen-on-teen competitionÃ¢â ¬â ¢and this is packed with similar questions of morality. High stakes, well-developed characters, and an LGBTQ slant on the classic spy story

make it all the more intriguing. Stock upÃ¢â ¬â ¢this one has something for everyone."-- Booklist, starred review "In this subversive take on the quintessential YA love triangle, two guysÃ¢â ¬â ¢the clean-cut boy next door and the brooding bad boyÃ¢â ¬â ¢compete for a girlÃ¢â ¬â„¢s affections. But nothing is as it seems: the guys are actually secret agents, trained to follow a script and fulfill specific romantic roles, and whoever doesnÃ¢â ¬â„¢t win his targetÃ¢â ¬â„¢s love will be killed by his ruthless employer. ... DietrichÃ¢â ¬â„¢s debut is impressive, provocative, and a clever take on well-worn romantic tropes. ... while the thriller elements add tension and numerous surprises."--Publishers Weekly"Caden is a spy. HeÃ¢â ¬â„¢s spent most of his life so far in an underground facility being groomed physically and mentally to become a Love Interest for someone influential. Now heÃ¢â ¬â„¢s finally been chosen. CadenÃ¢â ¬â„¢s been pegged as a Nice, the nerdy-boy-next-door type with perfect abs and ocean blue eyes...fans of spy fiction and LGBTQ titles will find the novel worth reading."-- School Library Journal

Cale Dietrich is a YA devotee, lifelong gamer, and tragic pop punk enthusiast. He was born in Perth, grew up on the Gold Coast, and now lives in Brisbane, Australia. The Love Interest is his first novel.

WellÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â| What can I say? I really really loved the romance in this book. But the world building was a mess. If it was supposed to be proper dystopian YA it wasnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t thought throw enough. Too many plot holes, even if I know quite a few popular, award winning even, dystopias with a lot less sense behind the premise. But if the book was intended as parody on the genre, which I quite sure it was, the stuff was not enough ridiculous or exaggerated. For instance if the bad guys were aliens it would have be perfect. I mean life is so much more complicated than Nice vs Bad love interest. But evil alien plot could make the use of the stereotype so much more logicalÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â| Just saying. Also I wish the side characters were developed a bit more, the girls in particular.On other hand there is the love story. Perfect, tender, charming romance; totally realistic and adorable. I swallowed the book in 2 days, because the romance outshined the plot holes by far. Especially because I really liked Caden as narrator. And I loved Dyl as the True love interest.And then there was the epilogue. Little brilliant piece of romantic writing. This epilogue along deserves the 4 star rating!

This is fantastic!!!! I can’t begin to describe the depth that this book shows about humans and how squashing who you are essentially kills you. (This isn’t a spoiler in case you were wondering!) The only complaint, more like a critique but doesn’t ultimately matter, is the climax of the novel. While not

necessarily rushed, it felt a little unrealistic. For those of you that read it, I think you'll know what I mean. But it in no way undermines the story or its significance. I really enjoyed reading it!! I'm excited to see more of this author's work.

A page turner, it's alternatively sweet, funny, tense, and hopeful. I really enjoyed it. It's a good LGBTQ+ that's not particularly heavy. It pokes fun at some of the traditional romance tropes. It's an easy read with likable characters. Don't expect heavy world building and it'll be fine.

This book is the best possible combination of Scott Westerfeld's "Uglies" series and The Hunger Games. It features multifaceted characters, a gripping plot with high stakes, and lots of romantic tension. Highly recommend!

FIRST OF ALL, THE CONCEPT IS JUST SO UNIQUE. SECOND OF ALL, I LOVE IT, LIKE A LOT LOT.

An exciting tale of deceit, action and mystery. I kept trying to figure out what was real and what was part of the game. So many little twists and turns. A great YA story. 4.75 for planting trees.

Caden is a Nice; Dylan is a Bad. They are competing to the death for the love of Juliet, a young woman caught between them. The loser faces an agonizing defeat while the winner gains his right to live.This book is refreshing, lively, and mostly succeeds at breaking stereotypes. I really enjoyed the examination of the young adult love triangle in a new light. So many people blame Twilight for the popular trope but clearly it's been around longer than that. The concept is as old as literature itself. Jacob/Rachel/Leah, a crushing young adult love triangle, is in the Bible. Wuthering Heights took young adult love triangles to a crazy place, Gone With the Wind (who can forget adolescent Scarlett pining for Ashley while Rhett looks on)... Les MisÃƒÂ©rables (poor teenage, naive Eponine). Enough examples. The point is that the concept of exploring young love in this way is as old as our earliest written stories known to man. I absolutely love that Cale Dietrich really took this story and invented a new variation and examination that feels fresh and exciting.If you are a romantic, a sucker for a fulfilling ending, crave forbidden romance, and love young adult literature... this book is for you! It's a page-turning, exciting, interesting read with likable characters. I loved how clever Caden is, how sweet Dylan is. Their very personalities break the barriers of the roles they've been placed in, making the book twisty and fun. Juliet and the other characters are all equally

enjoyable to spend time with. The book was mostly faultless looked at from the perspectives above... love triangle young adult romance.The largest issue with the book is the Organization behind all of this. There is no actual hope for either winner or loser. Obviously the loser faces death, which makes me wonder why the easy answer for most competitors isn't just to kill off your competitionÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •especially if it's staged to further win the hand of the prize. Though the winner isn't really looking forward to much either. Once you "win" you don't gain freedom or life. You're destined to continually work for this organization forever, always at the threat of death or mind-erasing if you eventually lose your love or don't agree to live as a spy everyday, basically betraying your partner every moment you live with them. Doesn't sound very ideal. So makes me wonder why there hasn't been a rebellion or why anyone would want this life. All of this is presented in the first couples of chapters, so no spoilers here.Overall, this is a book worth reading. It would make for great discussion for young readers. I think any age group could enjoy this one however. It's full of tantalizing interactions that had me racing to turn pages and lots of twists and turns. Get this book to find out what happens to Caden, Dylan, and Juliet!

A book that is surprising at every turn, inverts tropes but never pats itself on the back for that, and was thrilling from page one through to the last page.

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