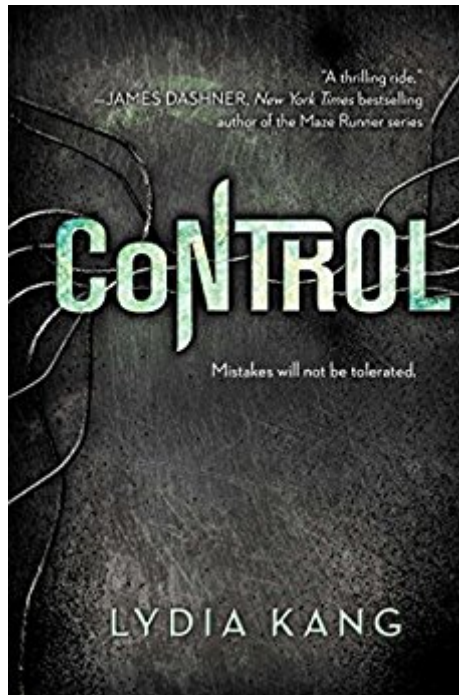




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Control (Control Duology)



Synopsis

For fans of *Uglies* comes a spiraling, intense sci fi thriller. "Control blew me away. The twists and turns and suspense made for a thrilling ride. Zel is as authentic a character as I've read in a very long time. Highly recommended" - James Dashner, New York Times bestselling author of *The Maze Runner* Set in 2150 -- in a world of automatic cars, nightclubs with auditory ecstasy drugs, and guys with four arms -- this is about the human genetic "mistakes" that society wants to forget, and the way that outcasts can turn out to be heroes. When their overprotective father is killed in a terrible accident, Zel and her younger sister, Dylia, are lost in grief. But it's not until strangers appear, using bizarre sensory weapons, that the life they had is truly eviscerated. Zel ends up in a safe house for teens that aren't like any she's ever seen -- teens who, by law, shouldn't even exist. One of them -- an angry tattooed boy haunted by tragedy -- can help Zel reunite with her sister. But only if she is willing to lose him.

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Customer Reviews

I bought Control because the heroine has Ondine's Curse - a rare medical condition that causes her to stop breathing when she falls asleep - and my daughter was born with this condition in real life. I didn't necessarily expect to like it - I am a picky reader - but I wanted to support an author writing about this subject matter. As it turned out, the book is great! Fast-paced and engaging from the get-go, it reminds me a bit of Divergent and The Hunger Games in tone and style (though not a copycat of either book at all). I highly recommend.

This book is amazing the time and detail that Lydia Kang put into not just telling a thrilling story but also making sure that she is true to the explanation of Ondine's curse is amazing. Kang took a unknown rare disease , and not just made it known but made the character that has it strong and independent (like all children/and adults who have this disease are) . I enjoyed this fast paced thrilling Sci fi that left me begging for more.

In a future world where genetically altered people are shunned by society to the point of exile, one girl must cope with the loss of one family and the stress of gaining a new one. Control is another YA novel set in the future, where man has created his own minority. Scientists have been experimenting with human DNA resulting in people with "traits." These traits are special abilities that include enhanced healing, breathable skin, and slow aging to name a few. The protagonist is a seventeen-year-old girl named Zelia who moves around a lot with her father and sister. After her father is killed in a car accident, her sister is kidnapped from the hospital. Zelia finds a home with a group of genetically altered teenagers and tries to find a way to get her sister back. The plot is very fast paced. It arrives in the second chapter and takes a firm grip on you until the very end. The main character Zelia is intelligent, determined, stubborn, and brave. The minor characters include a boy with four arms, another with two heads, and a girl with green skin. There is also the underlying mystery of who Zelia's father. How did he know the people that took Zelia's sister and how does he know her new surrogate family, it is one of the things Zelia learns about in her character development. While the story is captivating and there are plenty of interesting characters to keep your interest, "Control" does experience some of the typical YA pitfalls. A romance comes dangerously close to becoming a love triangle. Zelia's love interest is a very typical broody, sarcastic, obnoxious boy that Zelia hates at first despite the fact that she finds him attractive. They fight and fight until her boy admits that he is in love with her and there is a new couple. Some readers may be turned off a bit by the science that fills the pages. The characters spend a lot of time

in labs doing experiments with DNA. It does not get as involved as it could have been. The author Lydia Kang is a physician, so she probably knows much more than she put in. The science is not overwhelming though unless you have a complete phobia of beakers and theoretical physics. Overall, I would say that this one is worth the read. I look forward to seeing how this story progresses.

I wanted to give control 5 stars, I did, but there were little things here and there that rubbed the wrong way and so I just couldn't. I'd like to start by applauding Lydia Kang for creating a story with scientific facts and knowledge without being overbearing. Bravo, Ms. Kang, Bravo! Characters: I started out really liking Zel, but by the end, I wanted to slap her upside the head. In a world where she has no one but her family, she does whatever it takes to protect them, even if it means that others have to sacrifice for her. I liked Cy, both as a supporting character and a love interest (even if I felt we were rushed to their romance), and I liked that he was abrasive for a reason. The supporting characters (Hex, Wilbert, Vera, Marka) were outstanding and the way they interacted with Zel was well-written. I loved that she came to see them as an extension of her family, as well. Plot: The plot was one of the most interesting I've read. I loved how Kang really built up her plot to the very last, revealing chapters, and the conclusion left me wowed and wanting more. I really hope this isn't a standalone book, but if it is, the conclusion (while I absolutely hated it!) really packed a punch and homed in the message of "consequences of your actions". Pros: -Cast of characters (for the most part) -Kang's way of really fleshing out her story with science while not making it too overwhelming for those without a scientific background -The plot and the world building Cons: -My biggest issue with the whole book was the fact that I wanted to throttle the main character at the very end for being so very stupid. I get that she was acting in the best interest of a loved one, and I really think that Kang captured the naivety and rash decision-making of a teenager, I still wanted to smack her. Repeatedly. Perhaps with a heavy object. -I want more to this series!

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