

16 FOREVER

by Lance Rubin

Published in 2026

Rating (0 stars is the absolute worst, 10 stars is the BEST BOOK EVER)



Genre(s):



Contemporary/Realistic



Action/adventure



Science Fiction



Fantasy



Romance



Horror



Mystery



Nonfiction



Historical fiction



Other:

This book follows a teen named Carter Cohen, who is stuck in a mysterious time loop where he lives his 16 year over and over again. Every time he's about to turn 17, his memory is wiped and his body ages backwards while the rest of the world continues on without him. The story looks at how he handles this "reset" and how it affects his relationship with his girlfriend, Maggie, who remembers everything when he doesn't.

I found this concept of the time loop. Very intriguing, but also frustrating to think about. As a 10th grader, I know that turning 16 and getting your permit feels like a huge accomplishment and a step forward towards independence so the idea of never being able to move 'up the ladder' to age 17 sounds exhausting. It was especially stressful to imagine the perspective of the girlfriend, Maggie, who has to deal with the person she loves for getting her over and over again while she and the rest of the world move on without him.

While the book is a bit of page-turner because the mystery is unique, it felt a little boring at times because of the repetitive cycle. I wish the author had included more of a 'quest' or a clear way for Carter to break the loop rather than having it to be a constant reset he can't control. I would recommend this to readers who like emotional 'what if' stories or romance, but if you prefer fast paced action or an adventure, this might feel a bit slow to you.

By Kristin T, 10th grade, enjoys reading mystery, romance, action/adventure, and nonfiction