

THE NATURALS

by Jennifer Lynn Barnes

Published 2013

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:

In the thrilling, paranormal universe of *The Naturals*, the reader dives into a criminal world filled with splattered dry blood, freshly cut hair with bows, and rose red lipstick stains. We follow our young protagonist Cassie Hobbes, a natural profiler with a freakish ability of digging into the creepy minds of serial killers, as she solves cold cases for the FBI and discreetly traces down her mother's murderer. Only, it seems that a certain criminal is yet again on the hunt. Who's the prey? You already know. So, will our favorite underdog catch the predator before time runs out? Tick tock, little C... after all, you know what's at stake. Or who.

Have you ever slipped into the mind of a serial killer or a victim? Well, Cassie Hobbes has many times. Except, on normal people without an offensive history. That is, when she was still a seventeen-year-old waitress working at a small diner in Colorado. And until a certain bad boy with a track of doing stupid things tracks her down, inviting her into a program where the paranormal, special abilities of these teens are welcome. There is Sloane Harrison, the girl with an eerie ability of knowing every possible statistical fact.

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(review continued from previous page)

Next comes Lia Zhang, a living and breathing human lie detector with a sketchy past in a cult. Of course, the classic bad boy Michael Townsend, a masterful reader of emotions, as it turns out, takes an interest in Little Miss. Not-So-Innocent-Anymore. And then there's one left... Dean Redding, yet another profiler as well as the son of a notoriously well-known cold-blooded murderer, who seems to despise Cassie with every fiber of his being as he strays away from her. While these characters are certainly most fascinating, the author Jennifer Lynn Barnes relies too heavily on a lingering love triangle that nearly threatens to upend the FBI investigations. Fortunately, we are quickly pulled back into a world where the mystery is clearly the priority. The prose is beautiful as well as masterful but slightly polished for traumatized teenage girls, briefly exposing the less than realistic aspects of this piece. Just as the romance and perfectly portrayed teen emotions threaten to take over, the thriller aspect is back and grounded. The killer has infiltrated every defense the program has to offer... meaning that someone within is lying. In a room full of trained naturals who study serial killers and targets. Who is it? Read this thrilling, slightly sluggish, yet highly suspenseful book, and you'll find out.