



Challenger Deep

By Neal Shusterman

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Challenger Deep By Neal Shusterman

National Book Award and Golden Kite Award Winner

A captivating novel about mental illness that lingers long beyond the last page, *Challenger Deep* is a heartfelt tour de force by *New York Times* bestselling author Neal Shusterman.

Caden Bosch is on a ship that's headed for the deepest point on Earth: Challenger Deep, the southern part of the Marianas Trench.

Caden Bosch is a brilliant high school student whose friends are starting to notice his odd behavior.

Caden Bosch is designated the ship's artist in residence to document the journey with images.

Caden Bosch pretends to join the school track team but spends his days walking for miles, absorbed by the thoughts in his head.

Caden Bosch is split between his allegiance to the captain and the allure of mutiny.

Caden Bosch is torn.

Challenger Deep is a deeply powerful and personal novel from one of today's most admired writers for teens. Laurie Halse Anderson, award-winning author of *Speak*, calls *Challenger Deep* "a brilliant journey across the dark sea of the mind; frightening, sensitive, and powerful. Simply extraordinary."

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 9 Up—Caden Bosch lives in two worlds. One is his real life with his family, his friends, and high school. There he is paranoid for no reason, thinks people are trying to kill him, and demonstrates obsessive compulsive behaviors. In his other world, he's part of the crew for a pirate captain on a voyage to the Challenger Deep, the ocean's deepest trench. There he's paranoid, wary of the mercurial captain and his mutinous parrot, and tries hard to interpret the mutterings of his fellow shipmates as they sail uncharted waters toward unknown dangers. Slowly, Caden's fantasy and paranoia begin to take over, until his parents have only one choice left. Shusterman's latest novel gives readers a look at teen mental illness from inside the mind of Caden Bosch. He is a credible and sympathetic character, and his retreat into his own flawed mind is fascinating, full of riddles and surrealism. Shusterman based the novel on his son's mental illness, and Brendan's input regarding his diagnosis of schizoaffective disorder and psychiatric care makes the novel ring true. Teens, especially fans of the author's other novels, will enjoy this book. **VERDICT** This affecting deep dive into the mind of a schizophrenic will captivate readers, engender empathy for those with mental illnesses, and offer much fodder for discussion.—Heather Miller Cover, Homewood Public Library, AL

Review

“A brilliant journey across the dark sea of mental illness; frightening, sensitive, and powerful. Simply extraordinary.” (Laurie Halse Anderson, award-winning author of *Speak*)

“Haunting, unforgettable, and life-affirming all at once.” (Booklist (starred review))

“An adventure in perspective as well as plot, this unusual foray into schizophrenia should leave readers with a deeper understanding of the condition.” (Kirkus Reviews (starred review))

“Clearly written with love, the novel is moving; but it’s also funny, with dry, insightful humor. Illustrations by the author’s son Brendan, drawn during his own time in the depths of mental illness, haunt the story with scrambling, rambling lines, tremulousness, and intensity.” (Horn Book (starred review))

“Teens, especially fans of the author’s other novels, will enjoy this book. **VERDICT** This affecting deep dive into the mind of a schizophrenic will captivate readers, engender empathy for those with mental illnesses, and offer much fodder for discussion.” (School Library Journal (starred review))

“A powerful collaboration...[Caden’s] story turns symptoms into lived reality in ways readers won’t easily forget.” (Publishers Weekly (starred review))

“A thoroughly realistic story...Both male and female readers will find this compelling while acquiring a deeper compassion and understanding.” (Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA))

“Shusterman does a masterful job...The intensity of living inside Caden’s mind makes this a wrenching read.” (Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books (starred review))

From the Back Cover

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Eileen Smith:

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to complete! A lot of people spent their leisure time with their family, or their very own friends. Usually they undertaking activity like watching television, likely to beach, or picnic inside the park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Would you like to something different to fill your personal free time/ holiday? Can be reading a book can be option to fill your free of charge time/ holiday. The first thing that you ask may be what kinds of guide that you should read. If you want to try out look for book, may be the guide untitled Challenger Deep can be very good book to read. May be it may be best activity to you.

Jewell Garza:

Would you one of the book lovers? If so, do you ever feeling doubt while you are in the book store? Try and pick one book that you find out the inside because don't determine book by its protect may doesn't work is difficult job because you are afraid that the inside maybe not because fantastic as in the outside look likes. Maybe you answer might be Challenger Deep why because the fantastic cover that make you consider about the content will not disappoint you. The inside or content is definitely fantastic as the outside or perhaps cover. Your reading sixth sense will directly guide you to pick up this book.

Samuel Potter:

Are you kind of stressful person, only have 10 as well as 15 minute in your day time to upgrading your mind ability or thinking skill possibly analytical thinking? Then you are receiving problem with the book compared to can satisfy your small amount of time to read it because pretty much everything time you only find book that need more time to be study. Challenger Deep can be your answer mainly because it can be read by you who have those short free time problems.

Elmo Bragg:

As a student exactly feel bored to reading. If their teacher inquired them to go to the library or even make summary for some guide, they are complained. Just tiny students that has reading's heart or real their interest. They just do what the educator want, like asked to the library. They go to generally there but nothing reading really. Any students feel that reading is not important, boring along with can't see colorful images on there. Yeah, it is for being complicated. Book is very important for you. As we know that on this time, many ways to get whatever we would like. Likewise word says, ways to reach Chinese's country. Therefore , this Challenger Deep can make you experience more interested to read.

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