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The Mediator #1: Shadowland



Synopsis

Shadowland is the first book in the thrilling, romantic Mediator series, from the New York Times bestselling author of the Princess Diaries, Meg Cabot. Suze is a mediator—a liaison between the living and the dead. In other words, she sees dead people. And they won't leave her alone until she helps them resolve their unfinished business with the living. But Jesse, the hot ghost haunting her bedroom, doesn't seem to need her help. Which is a relief, because Suze has just moved to sunny California and plans to start fresh, with trips to the mall instead of the cemetery, and surfing instead of spectral visitations. But the very first day at her new school, Suze realizes it's not that easy. There's a ghost with revenge on her mind...and Suze happens to be in the way. Don't miss the delightfully funny supernatural Mediator series, from New York Times bestselling author Meg Cabot.

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Customer Reviews

This book was both my introduction in the Mediator series as well as my first book written by Meg Cabot. This book is what made me interested in writing as a profession. The novel opens with Suze moving to California after her mother remarries, and she suddenly has a super nice stepfather

named Andy, and three stepbrothers who she nicknames Sleepy, Dopey, and Doc. But Suze isn't like normal girls, she is a mediator, she can see, speak to, and even interact physically with spirits who have not moved on. She isn't happy with this ability though, and finds that the house she moves into has a spirit of its own, Jessie who died when the house was a boarding house over fifty years ago. Her house isn't the only place that houses spirits, the school she attends is haunted by a girl who died just recently, and she doesn't want to move on peacefully. It will take all of Suze's abilities to figure out how to get her to move on, whether she wants to or not. The writing style is easy to read and flows very well. It reads like it really is the thoughts of a teenage girl. I couldn't wait to read the rest of the series.

When I read the description of this book I was a bit wary to buy it. It is obviously marketed for middle and high school students and it is an older book series with very little reviewers. Because it is the only book I have seen on with a solid 3+ star rating from everyone (and because I devoured the Pretty Little Liars books for the same target audience) I decided to give it a shot. I was surprised at how enjoyable it was. I found it to be a sort of lighthearted combination between the Ghost Whisperer TV show and Buffy the Vampire Slayer (I'm embarrassed to admit that although I am in my mid-twenties I still love watching reruns of the first couple seasons - I can't break a 16 year habit I guess). Shadowland is humorous and definitely kept me interested. I finished it in two short sessions. I only had three issues with the book that warranted a 4 star rating. I was a bit annoyed with Suze's tendency to develop a crush on any guy that shows her the slightest bit of attention, living or dead. I know she is 16 but come on! The phrase "kick butt" was used waaaay too much. I understand it is a teen book and don't want to advocate profanity, but I cannot take anyone who uses that phrase seriously and I thought it made her sound like a seven year old child, not the tough chick she claims to be. Considering worse words are used in overabundance, that I cannot say here because won't let me, I think the author could have matured the language a little or just found a new phrase to use. Another reviewer also mentioned her excessive use of "I mean" and wow, they were not kidding. Lastly, Suze names her new stepbrothers after 3 of the 7 dwarves and always refers to them by those names in her head. It got a bit confusing when their real names were used. She calls them the dwarf names on accident all the time and they never question it either. I just thought that was kind of weird lol I guess I'm just being nitpicky. These are just small things I thought about while reading the book, but nothing that would dissuade me from reading the book or liking it. If you're sick of all of those overdramatic teen paranormal books and want

something fun to read I suggest trying this book, if your pockets can allow it. They only take a few hours to read yet cost about \$7 a pop unless you have prime or like to buy used books.

To be honest I didn't realize she wrote The Princess Diaries, not that I read them. I never really expected to like ghost books much so I was in for a surprise, I totally enjoyed this one! I've always loved witty and sassy heroines, who don't take nonsense without giving you their special of knuckle sandwich! And Suze fits the bill. So now Suze just moved to sunny California from crowded New York since her mom had remarried. It was easier for them to move since her mom was a reporter when her step-dad was a carpenter with three kids, boys to be a bit more specific, would be more harder. At first sight she nicknamed her new brothers Dopey, Sleepy and Doc, which pretty much covered their personalities. Doc, his real name was David, is my favourite! He was probably, no definitely, Suze's favourite stepbrother as well. Suze was hoping to get away, or at least to get a break, from her normal routine. She's a mediator, she solves ghosts' problems and send them off wherever it is that they're supposed to go. They usually come crying and screaming for her help-literally- and there's no way she can refuse, them ghosts don't give in easily. Sometimes she's forced to get physical with certain stubborn ones, you remember that knuckle sandwich I mentioned? As soon as she stepped into her new room she met her first ghost of the season, Jessie. He doesn't seem to need her help at all. She doesn't look forward to sharing her room with this ghost boy, who happened to be a hottie! So she told him to get lost, which he did...for a while. Suze found out that she wasn't the only mediator in town, oh no she wasn't alone. Father Dominic, the principal at her new school (Catholic), is the only mediator, other than herself, that she knows of. Father Dom was trying to help a former student, Heather, now a ghost to move on. So Suze decided to take things into her own hands, oh yeah she could handle this after all she's been in the business for years, she's practically a professional right? Uh huh. Yeah well, things didn't turn out so great as she'd planned. So in the end Heather got a one-way ticket to the afterlife. Adios. But there was still Jessie who refused to leave Suze's room, on a permanent basis that is. So she decided there had to be rules. In short we know she has a crush on Jessie and he has a crush on her, yeah a ghost I mean how weird can you get but it's kinda sad. Well I can't wait to get my hands on the next book in the series. I started this book last night and finished it only this morning. (My review from Goodreads.com)

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