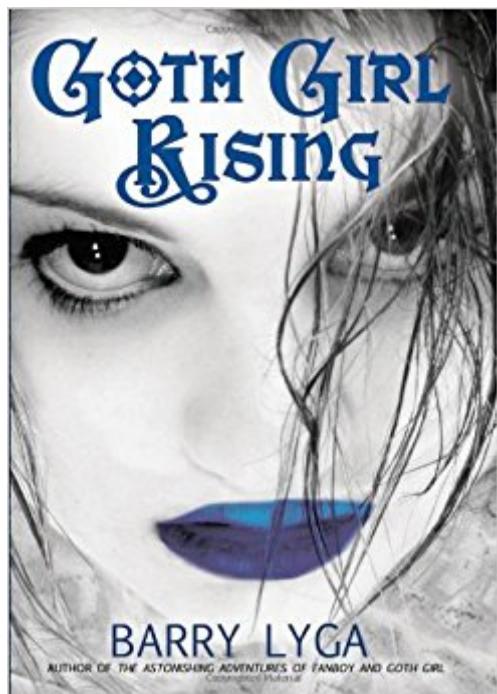


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# Goth Girl Rising



## **Synopsis**

Time is a funny thing in the hospital. In the mental ward. You lose track of it easily. After six months in the Maryland Mental Health Unit, Kyra Sellers, a.k.a. Goth Girl, is going home. Unfortunately, she's about to find out that while she was away, she lost track of more than time. Kyra is back in black, feeling good, and ready to make up with the only person who's ever appreciated her for who she really is. But then she sees him. Fanboy. Transcended from everything he was into someone she barely recognizes. And the anger and memories come rushing back. There's so much to do to people when you're angry. Kyra's about to get very busy. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

## **Book Information**

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Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 60 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #638,339 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #136 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Peer Pressure #145 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Suicide #1175 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Being a Teen

## **Customer Reviews**

Product Description Time is a funny thing in the hospital. In the mental ward. You lose track of it easily. After six months in the Maryland Mental Health Unit, Kyra Sellers, a.k.a. Goth Girl, is going home. Unfortunately, she's about to find out that while she was away, she lost track of more than time. Kyra is back in black, feeling good, and ready to make up with the only person who's ever appreciated her for who she really is. But then she sees him. Fanboy. Transcended from everything he was into someone she barely recognizes. And the anger and memories come rushing back. There's so much to do to people when you're angry. Kyra's about to get very busy.

Exclusive: A Q&A with Barry Lyga, Author of *Goth Girl Rising* Q: When you were writing The

Astonishing Adventures of Fanboy and Goth Girl, did you have a plan for Goth Girl Rising? A: When I finished the book, I sort of sat back and thought about it and I realized that I knew an awful lot about Kyra that doesn't come across in the first book. I had a sort of glimmer of what a Kyra novel might be like. I wrote out a couple of paragraphs (which, after editing, became the opening paragraphs of Goth Girl Rising) just to get a feel for her narrative voice and then I put it aside. I wasn't sure I wanted to do a sequel, even though I felt pretty confident that I could. So I just left it on the back burner while I worked on Boy Toy. Probably about halfway through Hero-Type, I thought to myself, "Yeah, I have to do it." Q: Writing from the perspective of a teen girl must have been extremely challenging. What kind of research or work did you do to prepare? A: Really, the best research and preparation for something like this is just paying attention to the people around you. I've always, for some reason, had more female friends than male friends, and they tend to confide in me, so I felt like I had a decent grip on some of the gender issues. A good friend of mine, a woman in her twenties, talked to me a lot about Kyra, and her questions and thoughts really helped me come to grips with the issues and difficulties that face young women at this particular point in history. From there, it was just a matter of filtering all of that through the specific wiring in Kyra's brain. Q: What do you think are Kyra's best qualities? Her worst? A: Oh, boy! Well, her best qualities are definitely her fierceness and her loyalty. She doesn't buy into anyone's lies and she doesn't give up on things easily. In the first book, for example, even when she's decided that she's angry at Fanboy, she still decides to help him with Schemata, simply because she believes in it. Her worst qualities are probably that she's so impulsive and unforgiving. In the first book, she gets angry at Bendis on behalf of her friend--that's good. Then she flashes Bendis in public--that's not good! And you'll see in the second book just how unforgiving she can be. Q: What do you think your high school self would have thought of Kyra? Would you have been friends? A: Oh, I think my high school self would have been terrified of her, but I would have wanted to date her anyway. I don't know if we would have been friends or not. On the one hand, I was such a shy, geeky kid...but then again, so is Fanboy and she liked him! Q: Are you done with Fanboy and Goth Girl or are there more stories to tell? A: You know, that's a tough question to answer. When I started thinking about writing Goth Girl Rising, I was nervous because people loved that first book so much--I didn't want to write something that would be a disappointment to them. The sequel had to be a better story than the original, in my mind. That's the standard I hold myself to when writing a follow-up--it has to be better than the original. So, I guess if I came up with a story better than Goth Girl Rising, I would write it. But honestly, I think the end of the sequel is a great place to leave the characters. Q: What are you working on now? A: I've got a couple of things burning holes in my hard drive. I'm working on a fun

series for middle grade readers, which is all about a kid with superpowers...and how he is NOT a superhero. I'm also working on my next young adult novel, which just seems to get longer and more complex every time I sit down to work on it. And I'm putting together a graphic novel, which is a lot of fun. Q: How do you spend your time when you're not writing? A: These days, I don't have a lot of time where I'm not writing! But I love to play videogames when I have the time (can't wait for BioShock 2!).

In this sequel to *The Astonishing Adventures of Fanboy and Goth Girl* (2006), Lyga dives with typical boldness into the complexity of teen emotions and, for the first time, the female perspective, starting with the first lines: "Before she went and died, my mom told me to stop bitching about my cramps all the time." This time, it's Goth Girl, or Kyra, who narrates. Back home after a depressive breakdown and months spent in a psych ward, she pours out her anger: at Fanboy, who has serialized the comic she'd helped develop during their attraction-charged friendship; at her father, whose smoking she links to her mother's fatal cancer; and at a general culture that encourages women, including her teachers, to exploit their sexuality, even as she struggles to understand her own attractions to both boys and girls. Instant messages, grief-soaked poems, and letters to her hero, Neil Gaiman, add more angles to Kyra's raw, furious, heartbroken narrative. More than the meandering story line, it is Kyra's wholly believable questions and her forceful voice that will stay with readers. Grades 9-12. --Gillian Engberg

I was not as impressed with this book as I was the "I Hunt Killers" series. I loved the "I hunt Killers" series by this same author so I wanted to check out more of his work but this book was not as good. It did have a good ending that I was not sure I expected so I gave it 3 stars.

First, read "The Astonishing Adventures of Fanboy and Goth Girl" before reading this one. (Some people have reviewed it without reading the first book... that's like reviewing Empire without seeing Star Wars.... it's just silly) Once you have read the first one, enjoy the second one. It got on my nerves a bit because the main character is much less likable. But by the end, everything comes around full circle and you appreciate the journey all the more. I'd like to say I'd love to see another one, but the tale is well told in the two books and anything more would diminish it. A must read for the outcast, goth, comic fan, nerd, or any combination thereof. But like I said, get both and read in order.

Kyra Sellers (aka Goth Girl) is fresh out of her six month stay in the loony bin; where we last saw her being carted off to, at the end of the highly entertaining read, THE ASTONISHING ADVENTURES OF FANBOY AND GOTH GIRL. I have to say I'm pretty blown away by Barry Lyga's ability to so believably portray a female lead. Yes, we did get a taste of this skill in the first book, TAAOFAGG, but messed up 16 year old Kyra was just a secondary character to the very strong geeky lead Donnie/Fanboy. And to true to its name sake, our little Goth Girl Kyra dominates the emotional roller-coaster that is GOTH GIRL RISING. This is truly her tale to be told. Yes fans will find their endearing wonder comic-geek Fanboy here, but only in small doses. Although still true to the original book in many ways, this is a much darker read with deeper look into some very serious teen hot-topic issues. But Lyga manages to address these issues in a very real way without losing the humor and, well... fun, I guess for lack of a better word. Yes, I'd still consider this a "fun" read even with the included themes of teen suicide, sexual promiscuity, criminal activity, parental death, mild drug use and underage drinking... ah, yeah I know, but somehow it works. Lyga makes it work and work well. I really liked GOTH GIRL RISING and would recommend it to anyone who enjoyed its predecessor, THE ASTONISHING ADVENTURES OF FANBOY AND GOTH GIRL. And even though it's not 100% necessary to have to read TAAOFAGG first, it'll make for a clearer read of GG and I actually did feel it to be slightly better book, but only slightly. [4/4.5 stars, PG-13]

This book was better to me than it's predecessor. Book 1, following Fanboy, left me annoyed because Fanboy just is not a likable character for me. I just can't follow his extremely narrow-minded logic. But I can follow Goth Girl, and I loved her metamorphosis. Reading from her point of view and watching her find her way was much more enjoyable than reading about Fanboy finally realizing (but only barely) what a jerk he truly was compared to the rest of the universe. Fanboy has a marked character improvement in this book as well, so that led to a much more pleasant reading experience.

I really liked Fanboy and Goth Girl so I had to read the sequel. It was very different. I think this is the first Lyga story that I thought was sad and I felt bad for her struggles. It's Barry Lyga so don't fear this is a total sad story, but it's a departure. A good departure, I'm still a fan and I still like these characters.

Bought it for Cody to complete his series. He has the Fanboy and Goth Girl book. So he needed this one.

Love the story, love everything about it. However, the staggering amount of typos in the kindle edition are far too numerous to be on accident and they're incredibly distracting at times. Still love the book, but holy s\*\*\* the typos....

Wonderful book, great condition!! This is a great story for older kids and even adults.

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