

Title: *The Cousins*
Author: Karen M. McManus
Genre: Thriller

Reviewer Name and Grade: Karan S., 9th Grade

Date Reviewed: March 29, 2021

Gull Cove Island, near the coast of Massachusetts, was altered into a luxurious area by a man known as Abraham Story. In the 1990s, Abraham Story's widow, Mildred, disinherited her offspring, therefore, meaning that her offspring, Adam, Anders, Allison, and Archer, couldn't inherit her property or money once she dies. This disinherit was caused by a letter sent to each sibling from Mildred's lawyer.

Decades later, Adam's, Anders's, and Allison's 18-year-old grandchildren, Milly, Aubrey, and Jonah, received letters from Mildred to spend the summer working at her island resort. Milly, Aubrey, and Jonah are cousins, however, barely even know each other when they receive these letters. In an act of compulsion to re-enter their mother's lives, Adam, Anders, and Allison forcefully accept the invitation for their children, however, Mildred wasn't expecting the children. Milly would be considered as a city girl who lives in Manhattan. Jonah would be considered as a not so polite person who lives in Rhode Island. Lastly, Aubrey is a competitive swimmer who lives in Oregon.

Did the plot (for fiction) or presentation of information (for nonfiction) keep you interested?

As a thriller, one can definitely expect it to be interesting, however, this book is beyond interesting. From the suspenseful plot to the mysterious conflicts, this book definitely keeps me intrigued.

Was the pace of the book too fast, too slow, or just right?

Taking into consideration the way the story is written, I feel that the pace meets up to its standards. Although it could be considered a little slow for some, in my opinion, for a thriller book, it's just right.

What grade level is this book appropriate for?

I believe this book is great for anyone in high school, in other words, anyone from grades nine or up.

What type of reader would you recommend this book to?

I would recommend this book to readers who want to read, but never get interested in the plot enough to stick with one book. I say this because this book is not only enjoyable itself, but also keeps you intrigued throughout the whole story, providing the interest to read more.

What other information do you think would be helpful for teens to know about this book?

Some other information that would be helpful is that this book is great if you enjoy mysteries, suspense, and overall thrillers.

4 stars: I enjoyed this book and found it worthwhile reading.

This book was a very intriguing and impressive book, making it a worthy read. However, many of the conflicts in this story were expectable. For instance, in many of the conflicts, especially those at Mildred's island resort, what would occur in those conflicts was expected. Although this may seem normal, for a mystery book, it isn't the best look. However, apart from this, I greatly enjoyed this book and found it more than pleasurable.