



The Genius Wars

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After abandoning a life full of deception and mistrust, fifteen-year-old Cadel has finally found his niche. He has a proper home, good friends and loving parents. He's even studying at university.

But he's still not safe from Prosper English, who's now a fugitive from justice and determined to smash everything that Cadel has struggled to build. When Cadel's nearest and dearest are threatened, he must launch an all-out attack on the man he once viewed as his father.

Can he track down Prosper before it's too late? And what rules will he have to break in the process?

The Genius Wars Details

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Author : Catherine Jinks

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From Reader Review The Genius Wars for online ebook

Candy Jackson says

Have you ever tried to hide from one of the most dangerous people in the world? The genre of my book is realistic fiction because it could really happen. I think its cool how the kids use computer and street to provide for themselves and use street smarts to hide from a antagonist Prosper English they use lots of resources to do what they had to do, they were hacking into computer networks, security networks and even internet networks its pretty cool. I think its fascinating how children can do so many things with what we learn in school technology is the key to the world and its kinda funny how older people say we rot our brains with technology but really technology is going to save the world one day.

The summary of this story a group of kids had put a very bad person in jail in the previous book then the year after they found out he broke out of jail. Back to the story the kids use their smarts to hide from the villain mentioned earlier Prosper English. They feared he was after them which i am sure he was. and they did there best to avoid in the end it was concluded with death. When he caught them hiding. overall the story line was amazing and it really tied up. I recommend this book for anyone. The Major theme in the story is determination the kids were determined to find and stay at a safe place. In the story they try to hack in the security networks around the

My strongest opinion on this story is very strong and healthy and i really think you should read this amazing book. I think this book is so amazing because its starts off so fast and ties up into other elements in the story and in the story they use security networks to find a place to stick with while hiding. In the story you get no input on the location in which the story took place.

The characters are in a conflict of person vs person because they are against a single after them and are willing to do anything to avoid him (PROSPER ENGLISH) and so that ended in ones death. This book has an amazing storyline that took turns at really intense times its just amazing.

I rate this book a 3.5 because its was kinda boring just having to hide and being boring I think the book in badly written. I regimen this book for people who like a long adventure that is important for someone's life. The book is a great way to know what it feels like to hide from someone a long periodically time

tampa says

Three and a half stars This book seemed a little haphazardly thrown together compared to the first two books, which were both amazing. I felt a little like Jinks was ready to be done with this series before she started the final book. Still, she managed to deliver a good story and she even made me cry! :/

710Sebastiano says

the best so far absolutely loved it but it was sad

Askanibblue says

One of the worst endings I've ever read. Hands down. Stay away.

Finish the second book, imagine a resolution, and move on with your life.

I really enjoyed the first ones. The overall concept was unique and I loved that Cadel actually had real problems from his childhood of abuse (something that a lot of author's skip). And he grew from that abuse to someone who was always improving, though still retained the echos of that trauma. Then... this book happened.

As others have said, Cadel's development stops completely and then slides backwards. The best I can say about this book is that it's repetitious and fails at capitalizing on anything that could have helped that (like Niobe reappearing). The cast is almost nonexistent, and most of what you get is Cadel's internal, paranoid rambling.

But all that just makes the book bad, it's the ending that makes it horrible.

(view spoiler)

The ending was also so abrupt and so... completely insane that I **literally** checked to see where the pages had stuck together. That's how bad this was. Nothing is resolved. NOTHING. Take a book, any book, tear out the last 50 pages and that's the sort of resolution you've got in this train wreck.

I hate this book so much, that at 1 am, after finishing this one, I pulled all the Genius books off my shelf and dumped them into the hall. They're not going to the used book store. I'm throwing them away. No one should be subjected to them.

Kaelyn says

To be honest, I didn't really enjoy The Genius Wars. It wasn't what I expected and it wasn't as great as the other previous books of this trilogy.

The only good part of this book was that we got to see another side of Prosper English. We got to see him break down from his former genius and into his crazed, almost devolved self. This was probably the only

appealing detail of this book for me.

There were many things that made this book terrible. Yes, terrible. I scarcely ever say a book is terrible, and this time it's not the subject matter that bothered me. It's how the story is given to the reader. Cadel became annoying about midway through the book. He continued to think about Prosper English and how to stop him and scarcely reflected on other things. It became almost redundant. Not once did he stop and think that maybe the police could handle Prosper. There was no character development whatsoever. Hell, anything that he gained from the second book backtracked into this obsessive, I-can-only-do-this Cadel. It was obnoxious and I nearly put the book down because of this.

Another annoying aspect of this book was when Catherine Jinks continued over and over about the surveillance. I understand that it was a huge part of the story, but I felt like she hammered in the point about a thousand times and it was annoying to no end. Having Cadel have to remind all the adults in the story how to avoid being detected and being paranoid about every camera in sight was bothersome and I feel like he should have figured something out so that he wouldn't be as paranoid, if only to give the reader a break from Cadel's paranoid babbling.

There were also less interesting characters. You basically had the same cast of characters as the second book, which would have been fine if they had been used. I feel like, having dealt with many different, interesting characters in the first book, that being isolated to just Cadel in the third book was boring, especially when he was just being paranoid the whole time and trying to solve things that the police might have helped him with. Having a few new actually engaging characters might have sweetened the pot.

The plot didn't really do it for me as it did in the other two. I expected a fast paced, action packed book, but it really wasn't as exciting as the first two. I really had to force myself to read and it just felt slow. I feel like some of this was Cadel's paranoia. Another issue I had with the plot was that the characters that did recur and that could have had an interesting part to play in the plot weren't used, or were barely used. Niobe's assassination attempts could have helped quicken the plot. Com and Dot could have been used more. Sonja and Hamish could have been used more. The plot was underwhelming and just a disappointment to me after reading the former two books.

Finally, I didn't really like the end. I think Jinks could have added a few more chapters on why Cadel had a sudden change of heart, of which I won't go into as I don't want to spoil anything. She didn't really wrap up loose ends, which was frustrating. It wouldn't have been a big deal if there were going to be more books in this series, but there aren't, so reading the ending was a huge let down. If anything, even if it didn't tie up the loose ends, Cadel's reactions to the past events could have been expanded to give it a halfway satisfying ending.

This book was just a huge disappointment for me. I do not recommend this book, although if you have read the first two, then I suppose you should read it so that you can get the rest of the story. Just be forewarned that it isn't as good as the first two. Don't set yourself up for disappointment.

Ursula says

WOW. What a good book and a good ending to the series. The last few pages caught me by surprise. It was an unexpectedly emotional ending. In a good way.

Despite being the shortest book in the trilogy, *THE GENIUS WARS* tied up in unexpected, but very realistic and logical ways. There were some characters from previous books that surfaced, and it was interesting to see and learn more about them. I like how Jinks gives details about the characters I wouldn't think to ask, but doesn't overload with boring, unnecessary information.

I'd say Jinks is weak on location and setting descriptions, but it kind of works in a weird way. I mean, she is telling the story through Cadel's eyes, and Cadel being a genius sees the world differently.

Jinks was VERY STRONG on diverse characters and technical details. I'm afraid to comment on the characters too much because that's such a big topic that I feel strongly about. I'm afraid of ranting. Sometimes when I rant what I'm saying turns to gibberish. I'll just say Jinks did a great job with the characters and their motives.

As far as the technicals go. DAMN. Jinks did some serious research. As I've said in notes and previous book reviews, I don't know much about computers and hacking, but this trilogy left me with a greater appreciation for both.

I read all three books this weekend and was surprised to rate all of them 5 stars! They're better than what I remember. That or my tastes have changed. Either way, I recommend them:)

Adela says

This wasn't a war, it was more of an attack. It also wasn't very good. From the beginning, where Cadel (who has sworn not to lie ever again) tells himself they won't mind that he's doing all this lying really and he sure is glad he's left his old way of life behind him. To the middle where he's really kind of annoying. To the end, where he's just really stupid and the author leaves it wide open. Very unnecessarily. When there's a fourth installment of this trilogy, I don't intend to read it. And the weird looking kid on the covers? Does he say "cherubic" and "angelic" face to you? No. So they should have gotten a better artist for the cover.

Samuel Sylvester says

Truthfully, I was dissatisfied with the ending. And come to think of it the entire book.

I think the big problem was nothing really happened. I was expecting, well, *Genius Wars*. There was no warring. We basically ran around screaming "Prosper is coming, Prosper is going to kill us".

I understand the panic. I mean after all, Prosper is one scary guy (props for great character design) to have coming for you. But at the same time, enough is enough.

The entire book seemed monotonous. We worried, then got attacked, then were told that everything was

going to be fine, then worried that everyone couldn't handle it alone, then helped (probably illegally), then got scolded for helping and reassured that everything was going to be alright, then worried a little more, then used our super-smarts to save our self, then followed some leads, started to feel bad about ourselves as people were getting hurt, then snapped out of it and followed another lead (success!) Then used our smarty-ness to solve a puzzle (more success!) and then failure, then lead number one paid off, then tried to help with the investigation without permission, upsetting the grown-ups. Then we were attacked again and decided that we had to take matters into our own hands, and we had to do it alone because people we cared about were getting hurt in the crossfire. Ran away and took matters into our own hands without the restrictions of legality. Success! Then got attacked again. Worried enough to throw up. More illegal actions but boy, do they get results or what! Busted! Reproach. Follow one of our closest leads. This is it people! We're so close to catching Prosper.

The rest of this scenario is a spoiler, and will be treated as such.

(view spoiler)

The story proceeds to wrap up in mere pages and ends sharply. (view spoiler)

BAM!! The End!

So unfulfilling . -_-

So no, I did not like Genius Wars. With an ending like that we required either an epilogue or a book four. So that's it. Didn't really enjoy it.

Liz Vennum says

Perhaps not QUITE as good as Genius Squad, but still good. Prosper's motivation got kinda lost, didn't make sense anymore. Not enough Sonya, she's great, she was just furniture in this book. Gazo was probably the best character in this book.

Rad says

1. NOT ENOUGH SONJA
2. MORE SONJA
3. You have to wonder, at this point, if Cadel is ever going to be okay again. I wish Catherine Jinks would write a new trilogy about Cadel's next ten years in therapy coping with his feelings for Prosper AND the fact that he's totally in love with SONJA
4. NEEDS MOOOOOORE SONJA PLEEEEEEASE
5. Not as exhilarating as the others? Not quite as fast-paced. Still really fast-paced, though, I think I finished this faster than I finished Mockingjay, another third in a series.
6. Saul and Fiona are such good parents. I was so happy for Cadel for a while.
7. However, there wasn't nearly enough Sonja!
8. Possibly because there was too much Hammish?
9. Also, WHAT THE HECK? Dot, Com, and Vee got caught so quickly? AND OFF-SCREEN?
10. While I was reading the last couple chapters, an INCREDIBLY SMELLY GUY sat next to me on the streetcar. WORST SMELLING DUDE EVER. His smell was so distracting that I had to read sentences at least two times in order for them to sink into my mind. I was like, "Gazo? Is that you?"
11. SOOOOOOOONJA
12. How much do I love that Cadel says, "Oh shit"? My armspan is like five feet. So, that much.

You can probably guess who my favorite character is. She really didn't show up as much as I wanted her to, though.

Oh, and

13. THAT LAST LINE. The ending felt pretty abrupt, but I think that might be one of my FAVORITE last lines of all time.

Way better than, "SO WE BEAT ON, BACKS AGAINST THE CURRENT ... BLAH BLAH JAZZ AGE."

Chuck says

OK, I am a glutton for punishment I suppose. Although I doubted I would continue with this series after the first book, I did get and read the second and then this third book. Bottom line: this - particularly the ending - is the least satisfying of all the books in my opinion. The characters are not very engaging and there's more than a bit of truth to Kale's characterization of Cadel as a "megalomaniac" and for a "genius" he falls quite easily into Prosper's trap.

Coyora Dokusho says

It was so good. Despite a very shallow acquaintance with computer science, I wasn't overwhelmed by the jargon and it was worked in seamlessly. Throughout the series, I really treasured the way that Cadel's interactions with Sonja were treated. The disability wasn't played down, or played up or romanticized or stereotyped - it just was.

I really want to know what happens later. An epilogue chapter, a short story ten years later, I'd gladly take another book, but I'm dying to know how it all works out for Cadel.

I cried at the end.

Jessica says

I initially enjoyed this book, thinking that there was going to be more installments of the series later on. However, I've just learned that Catherine Jinks is NOT going to be writing any more of these books, which has left me confused. She believes that she tied up all the loose ends, but I completely disagree. Leaving the series like this seems irresponsible to me as Cadel is left in almost the exact same position he was in at the beginning of the book: unable to trust anyone, always looking over his shoulder in case Prosper English is there. As is made abundantly clear in both this and the previous books, Prosper English is never to be underestimated, and he has a bad habit of surviving when all the odds are against him. So, I am left thoroughly dissatisfied with Jinks' ending.

I also came to dislike Cadel in this book. Up to this point, I was okay with how his character had progressed. Although he does have a rather significant ego, he was always kept in check by those who had a better perspective on the situation. But in this book, he somehow gets it into his head that he's the only one who can possibly take down Prosper English, which means to him that no one else can or should do anything that will help, for some reason. But despite all the efforts of him and everyone else, Prosper English still ends up with the upper hand, and it's only because of a freak act of nature that Prosper doesn't win in the end. It just seems a bit ridiculous that, once again, Cadel is saved by sheer coincidence.

I'm also told by my husband, who is a professional software developer, that many of the computer terms and methods employed by Cadel are either outdated, incorrect, or just plain impossible. I didn't pick up on it myself, since I don't know much about how computers work behind the scenes, but he picked up on it instantly, and it drove him insane. So, just a word of caution to anyone who knows anything about computers: these may not be the books for you if such things bother you. This really made me lose respect for Jinks, too, because she claims she consulted a math and computer professional about everything she includes in the book, but clearly she did not have anyone double-check her facts.

Despite all this, though, I did enjoy Jinks' writing style, as usual, and the fast-paced, unpredictable nature of the story. If you've liked the previous Genius books, it's worth it to read this one to round out the series.

Angie says

Holy mother of-

You know what, forget it? All I want to say that I love this book so *freaking much* and that this book, (the series, in fact) is absolutely well-written, so engaging and so freaking, goddamn *awesome* that I want to scream for the whole day.

Well done, Ms. Jinks. I really, really, really loved this series. Thank you so much for writing such a jewel.

Kirstyn says

"Cadel began to cry like someone whose heart was breaking." Oh dear Cadel, I know how you feel. My heart broke when I realised I was on the last line of the last page of the last chapter of the last book in this series. My pain was so great my eyes actually began to tear up when I realised this is the last I will ever read of Cadel. Catherine Jinks is an amazing author. There are so many good things about this series and so few bad things. It is not something that can be described with words. I love these books. I wish i had discovered them earlier in my life so I could've read them five times by now. Anyone who reads should read this series.

Steph says

Wow.... just, wow.

Such a thrilling end to Cadel's tale. I'll admit, Genius Squad was fairly low-key until the last quarter of the book when things picked up and became more exciting; however, Catherine Jinks completely made up for the lack of action in The Genius Wars, which is jam-packed full of it.

Jinks has a really original way of weaving subtle hints and distracting subplots throughout these books to the point of where you really aren't sure of which characters you can trust and which you can't; in fact, I'm surprised that she manages to keep up with her own plot. However, upon tying everything up at the end, it becomes clear that she's had a firm handle on everything the whole way through, though I have no idea how on earth she'd managed it!

And WHAT an ending. I won't spoil it for those who haven't read it, but it was truly a unique way to end the series, and I'm still trying to digest it.

Very highly recommended.

Mary Kirkpatrick says

It took me a good time to finish this one, but the events were very interesting, and kept me going. I also was anxious to find the fate of our beloved Cadel, his new friends and family, and OF COURSE, the man who raised him. Thaddeus Roth/Prosper English. Prosper is absolutely my favorite character of the series, and his ending left me stunned. The last page.... Left me screaming. Cadel... Oh my. You'll see, dear readers, you shall see.

LEVI says

Better than the last book in terms of Cadel actually *doing* instead of sitting back and whining. But 99% of the book was pure speculation; Cadel saying it must be so-and-so doing this or some other so-and-so doing that. There's no real confirmation that he's right about any of it until halfway through the book, and even then it doesn't answer all the questions. So Cadel goes to extreme lengths to show he's right. The whole book is a bit of a long shot, even given the subject matter and the things that happened in the previous two books. Ironically, I liked the ending. It made sense and provided decent drama/suspense/etc. Everything leading up to that felt disembodied from it, though. Cadel can calculate probabilities and all that, but that didn't convince me as a reader that he was necessarily on the right track about what he thought was going on. There wasn't enough proof along the way for it to be believable for me.

Elizabeth says

I wish I could rate this higher. I liked it. But for the final book in an AWESOME series, it was a disappointment. Things were too rushed, and there wasn't a satisfying conclusion. There were still plenty of suspense, and some humor, but I just wanted more! I still look forward to reading more of Catherine Jinks' books.

Timothy Collins says

Oh, Cadel -- why won't trouble leave you alone? Very enjoyable book with a very, very abrupt and rather open-ended ending. Jinks has claimed that this is the end of the series, but I believe that the end will leave every reader sort of questioning whether more is to come or not. More of what you have come to expect from this series, action-packed in parts and hacking-packed in others. I'm neither a hacker nor genius, so I am unsure as to the amount of realism that comes from the series. I've read a number of reviews that portray Cadel as a very unsympathetic character, but I do not get that feeling. Rather, I feel Cadel is a perfectly realistic character with major issues stemming from his past, yet trying to move past these. Overall, I think this series is quite the page turner.
