



TEEN SERVICES COMMUNITY SERVICE TEEN BOOK REVIEW

My Sister Rosa By Justine Labalestier Reviewed by Giavanna Corrao

Name: Giavanna Corrao

Grade: 7

Book Title: My Sister Rosa

Author: Justine Labalestier

Number of Pages: 309

Rating (on a scale of 1-5): 3/5

Character List:

- **Rosa** - A 10-year-old psychopath who manipulates her friends and family to convince them that she is normal. She is unable to feel a sense of empathy for her actions.
- **Che** - He is the trusted brother of Rosa and is the only one that knows the truth about her.
- **Leilani** - She is the sister of Maya and Simone. She realizes that there is something wrong with Rosa, but does not know her capabilities.
- **Maya** - She is Simone's twin sister and was killed after she discovered the truth about Rosa.
- **Sonjourner** - Che's girlfriend who does not see the truth about Rosa until Maya is killed.
- **David** - Rosa's father who also is a psychopath. He uses his family to cover for his behavior.

Review:

In *My Sister Rosa*, Che's sister Rosa is a ten year old psychopath. Rosa has been able to manipulate people with her smile. Her angelic appearance misguides people to believe that she is normal. The only person that Rosa trusts is her brother, Che. As Rosa confides all her plans and what she's done, Che secretly records her talking for proof. When Che meets a girl that he loves, Rosa does not like the fact that he isn't paying attention to her, so she befriends the daughter of her parent's friends, Simone. Rosa later convinces Simone to kill her twin sister Maya by pushing her into an oncoming bike rider. Leilani, also Simone's sister, runs away from home because she cannot handle Simone after Rosa brainwashed her to kill Maya. Rosa also convinced a past friend to kill her pet guinea pig because she enjoyed watching the guinea pig struggling to survive. Che tells his father about Rosa when she tries to kill her best friend Simone, but he soon realizes that his dad has taught Rosa everything she knows.

Author Justine Labalestier has written an amazing story with a suspenseful plot twist. You never know what Rosa will say. The only flaw with this book is some of the teen readers may dislike Rosa's actions. I feel the disturbing things she did could cause a reader to discontinue reading. I found it very interesting that the psychopath was a child in the story. Teen readers who enjoy edgy, suspenseful storylines will love this book. I recommend this book to people who like books about mysteries.