



TEEN SERVICES
COMMUNITY SERVICE TEEN BOOK REVIEW

Unearthed By Amie Kaufman and Meagan Spooner
Reviewed by Kyle Ress-Liere

Name: Kyle Ress-Liere

Grade: 11

Book Title: Unearthed

Author: Amie Kaufman and Meagan Spooner

Number of Pages: 328

Rating (on a scale of 1-5): 4/5

Character List:

- **Jules Thomas Addison:** A smart teenager from Oxford who wants to continue his father's legacy of learning about the Undying and their scientific practices. He wants this knowledge in order to solve earth's fundamental problems such as global warming and usage of fossil fuels.
- **Amelia Radcliffe:** A teenager with a rough background who is a scavenger. She does not have a lust for money, but is in dire need of it to improve her life and the life of her sister. She is an expert at hiding in plain sight and also an expert thief.

Review:

Due to overpopulation, global warming, and the scarcity of natural resources on Earth, an agency called the International Alliance is created. While on a space mission, they intercept a strange transmission, which is deciphered by Elliot Addison. The message came from a race called the Undying, from the planet Gaia. It states that only the race that is worthy will be able to find and use the technologies of the Undying. Elliot is determined to learn the science of the Undying, but the IA just wants to exploit them for their technology. He exposes the secret government planet as well as the access codes to the computers on national television. This opens opportunities for the scavengers of earth to illegally go to the planet in hopes of selling new technologies on the black market.

Amelia is a scavenger who is commissioned to uncover artifacts in order to protect herself and her sister. She soon meets Elliot's son Jules, who is trying to carry on his father's legacy by attempting to save planet Earth. He reveals to Amelia that there may be a secret temple that the Undying were alluding to in the message. Amelia decides to take a risk and venture with Jules to the temple. With the future uncertain and stakes high, the two begin their journey. Will Amelia and Jules find the hidden temple? Will Amelia be able to save everything she values most?

The authors of the book decide to alternate between the point of views of Amelia and Jules. This is interesting because it separately builds each of the main characters. It also reveals the thoughts of the characters and the secrets that they are both keeping from each other. This style of writing allows the readers to feel the tension between the two characters and also helps build suspense. The narrative further builds suspense by placing the characters in near death situations. Furthermore, the authors seem educated in the field of science as they include many basic mathematical terms and

common sci-fi elements. They also discuss the atmosphere and the gas concentrations of planet Gaia. The book overall is well written and organized but I still give it a 4 because it is a very generic sci-fi book. It shares many common elements of other sci-fi stories, but does not offer anything unique to the genre or any interesting plot twists to really stand out above the rest.

Teens will enjoy this book because it is suspenseful and action packed. The main characters are also teenagers which they can relate to. Amelia and Jules are both attracted to each other even though they do not show it. This book is especially good for people who are looking into getting into the sci-fi genre or just looking for an easy read. I would recommend this book to readers who read books occasionally and does not like to indulge themselves in long stories told over several books.