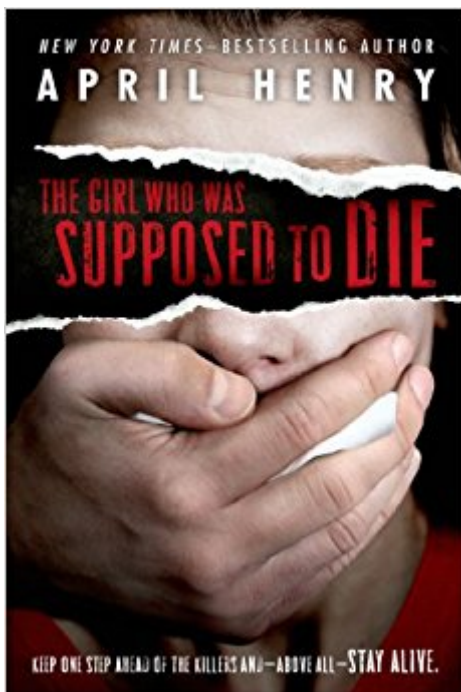


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# The Girl Who Was Supposed To Die



## Synopsis

"Take her out back and finish her off." She doesn't know who she is. She doesn't know where she is, or why. All she knows when she comes to in a ransacked cabin is that there are two men arguing over whether or not to kill her. And that she must run. In her riveting style, April Henry crafts a nail-biting thriller involving murder, identity theft, and biological warfare. Follow Cady and Ty (her accidental savior turned companion), as they race against the clock to stay alive, in *The Girl Who Was Supposed to Die*. This title has Common Core connections.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Gr 8 Up—Henry has turned up the intensity several notches from her previous YA books with this edge-of-your-seat thriller. The novel begins with a girl regaining consciousness just in time to hear her own death sentence: "Finish her off!" She outsmarts her would-be killer and escapes in his car, but she has no memory of who she is, where she is, or why she is being hunted. She figures she must be at least 16 as she knows how to drive. Many of the short, action-packed chapters cover mere minutes, while others encompass an hour or two. Aided by Ty, a nice guy she meets at a fast-food place, she escapes the first set of men trailing her and uses the Internet to piece together her story. According to articles and a Facebook profile, she is Cady Scott, a troubled runaway from Oregon who might be involved in a murder. But certain bits of information they find don't make sense. Cady and Ty go on the run, stealing a car to return to Portland to piece together her identity. The plot thickens to include biological weapons, double-crossing, and

corporate intrigue. The employees of Z-Biotech, the evil company Cady's parents worked for, seem almost unbelievably unethical, but most readers will be racing to turn the pages without questioning details. Suggest this one to fans of Stefan Petrucha's *Split* (Walker, 2010) and Matt Whyman's *Icecore* (2007) and *Goldstrike* (2010, both S & S) for a good adrenaline rush with the tiniest hint of romance.

—Maggie Knapp, Trinity Valley School, Fort Worth, TX (c) Copyright 2013.  
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--This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

If you liked *Girl, Stolen* (2010), you'll love Henry's latest tale of abduction, escape, and paranoia. Cady, 16, wakes up on the floor of a cabin. Two of her fingernails have been yanked out. A man says, "Take her out back and finish her off." Worst of all, she has total amnesia. To her shock, she discovers that she knows how to fight—she beats up her captor and flees, and what follows is 28 hours of outfoxing an unknown enemy who wants her, and apparently her family, dead. Cady's accomplice is Ty, a McDonald's cashier who risks his own skin to help her to safety. If it sounds convenient, don't worry—Henry gives Ty a backstory that makes his behavior believable, and there isn't an out-of-place romance to gum up the breakneck pace. Cady's bewildered first-person voice gives the book a tumbling, breathless feel as we scrape for clues right along with our protagonist. For most of the book, readers won't know if Cady's sane or not, which gives this hurtling thriller a welcome, darker edge. HIGH-DEMAND BACKSTORY: Henry is a dependable best-selling force in both adult and YA worlds, and this book is tailor-made to please her fan base. Grades 8-11.

--Daniel Kraus --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

Pre-read this book to see if my 6th grade granddaughter would like it. As a former middle school librarian I am accustomed to 'picky' readers. I handed it over after I finished and she read it quickly and loved it. The plot grabs you the first couple of pages and carries the reader on a journey to an almost great conclusion. There are quite a few twists and some very likeable characters as well as some that are not so likeable. This is a good book for 6th to maybe 10th graders who like a mystery suspense read that is not too long, yet holds your interest. She is now anxious to read more books by this same author. The rest of April Henry's books will be under the Christmas tree!

After waking up in a cabin with no memory of how she got there, Cady starts to panic. Soon after regaining consciousness, she hears her captors talking hears one of them tell the other to take her

out back and "finish her off". After managing to escape, she has no idea where to go|she has no money, doesn't remember her name, and doesn't know what happened to her. In her run from these men, she meets Ty, who ends up accompanying her on her journey to get to safety. What Cady does know is that she's still in danger, she just doesn't know why.

I've had a few less than stellar reads lately, and I was hoping this quick thriller would be just the thing to break my drought. Unfortunately, it didn't do it for me. It wasn't quite what I was expecting, and felt more like an action book than a thriller. The end also took a turn I wasn't expecting - very similar to *The Outliers*, which was another book I didn't like. What I did like was Cady and her friendship with Ty. I did find it a little unrealistic that they bonded so quickly and that Ty innately trusted Cady when she didn't even know who she was or what happened to her, but they were good together and relied on each other, which while not always believable, was a nice add to the story, especially considering most of the characters weren't super developed and were often flat. Overall, I don't have a ton to say about the book, which is probably fitting considering it was only ~200 pages long. It was a very quick read, and if you like action books/movies with a touch of biological warfare, this will be the perfect choice for you. Unfortunately, I was looking for something that was more of a thriller, and this wasn't a winner for me.

I picked *The girl who was supposed to die* because I love Henry's previous book *The night she disappeared*. Sadly, I didn't like this one as much as I loved the first one. In *The girl who was supposed to die*, we meet a girl who wakes up with no memory of whom she is, where she is, or why she just heard a voice ordering to have her killed whatsoever. Just my kind of story! The book picks up fast and it keeps getting better and better. It is when we found out who this girl is, and why people want her dead, that it all goes down the toilet. I rate the second half of the book as total, unbelievable 'romantic-mystery teen crap.' You know what I mean? Like those simple romantic books that throw a little senseless mystery in to have an excuse for a girl and a boy to meet? I did like the minimal cliffhangers. That is, we didn't have to nervously bite our nails wondering when something would be explained (other than the girl's true identity), because things always unfolded in the next chapter. For once, the male character wasn't described as the handsome, take-me-now type. Thus, I was surprised when, after Henry's less than favorable description of him, he tagged along. For so much depth and fine execution put into the beginning of the book, I just wonder what

happened to Henry to change toward the end. Even more, I felt as if two different authors had written the book! Henry, the beginning, and some else the second half.

A very entertaining short read. Had never read a YA thriller before but I really enjoyed it. I like the fact I can pick it up and finish it in a couple of hours when I have nothing else to do. If its one thing I hate, its having to put a good book aside in order to do something else! Really connected with the characters, especially Ty. He's the type of teenage boy you wouldn't mind seeing your daughter get involved with! I was totally able to empathize with Cady as well and what she was going through. Well done!

pretty good

Once I started, I couldn't put it down. First book in a while that I actually didn't know what would happen in the end. I like that it is clean, so I can recommend it to my grandmother, but still a great story.

Suspenseful, and I liked the characters.

This book is a quick and easy read and starts out great- I read the first half of the book in one sitting because I couldn't wait to find out who wanted the main character dead. I didn't like the second half of the book because I didn't think the motive for the crime was all that interesting- it was sort of random and not very believable.[SPOILER ALERT]After it becomes apparent that the people looking for her are colleagues of parents, intent on selling a virus to terrorists, I lost interest. The whole bio-terrorism thing doesn't really interest me... it always struck me as pretty far-fetched and and like the stuff of science-fiction novels, which I don't generally like. I prefer mystery/crime/thriller novels that are about interesting, well-developed characters whose motives are interpersonal/psychological.In summary, it's a incredibly quick read, and if you have a plane ride to kill and generally like thrillers, I'd recommend it. But if you're looking for a novel to spend some time with, choose another book.

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