

Reviewer Username: Claire Ku

School: El Dorado High

Grade: Freshman

Book Title: *Verity*

Book Author: Colleen Hoover

Rate 1-5 (1-lowest to 5-highest): 4

Lowen Ashleigh, a struggling writer on the brink of financial collapse, receives an offer she cannot resist. Jeremy Crawford, the husband of renowned author Verity Crawford, hires Lowen to complete the remaining books in Verity's successful series following her mysterious accident. When Lowen moves into Verity's chaotic office for inspiration, she stumbles upon an unpublished autobiography that reveals disturbing secrets about Verity. As Lowen continues to explore the manuscript, she becomes entangled in a dark and twisted narrative involving dark desires, manipulation, and a potentially murderous past. Lowen grapples with the decision to keep the manuscript hidden from Jeremy while witnessing several mysterious events unfold in the Crawford household. These occurrences leave her uncertain about whom to trust. Simultaneously, she realizes that both Jeremy and herself have fallen deeply in love, and revealing the truth within those pages could change everything. The suspense builds as trust wavers and unexpected twists keep readers guessing until the very end of this psychological thriller.

The suspense and tension in *Verity* are masterfully crafted. Colleen Hoover weaves a web of secrets, lies, and dark revelations that keep readers guessing until the final pages. The eerie and isolated atmosphere of the Crawford residence, coupled with subtle hints of Verity's presence woven throughout the book contributes to an underlying feeling of disorder and unease that keeps readers engaged. While the plot was riveting, I found the pacing a bit slow at times. Lowen's meticulous reading of the manuscript one chapter at a time felt frustratingly drawn out. Nevertheless, I was caught off guard by some of the surprising twists and revelations in *Verity*. Colleen Hoover's ending intentionally leaves some loose ends unresolved, allowing readers to fill in the gaps and imagine their own conclusions.

I recommend *Verity* to readers who enjoy psychological thrillers filled with unexpected twists and dark secrets. If you savor stories that maintain suspense until the very end, this book is likely to captivate you. Colleen Hoover's departure from her typical romance novels

demonstrates her versatility in this novel, appealing to a fresh audience who might not typically reach for her books.