



The Resisters

Eric S. Nylund

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Twelve-year-old Ethan Blackwood has always known exactly what he wanted—to win the state soccer championship, get into the best high school, and become an astronaut. Then he meets Madison and Felix, who tell him something . . . *insane*. They claim that 50 years ago, aliens took over the earth, and everyone past puberty is under their mind control. Ethan doesn't believe it. But then he sees for himself the aliens' monster bug robots and the incredible way that Madison and Felix have learned to fight them. So Ethan Blackwood has a choice: he can go back to his normal, suburban, protected lie of a life—or he can become a Resister.

The Resisters Details

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From Reader Review The Resisters for online ebook

Jnase1 says

The Resisters is a story about a boy named Ethan who lives in a storybook neighborhood. He is a typical teenage boy who seems to be living in a typical town, but soon finds out that his neighborhood and the entire world is not what it seems. One night after the big soccer game in which he scored the winning goal, he runs into Madison and Felix, two teenagers who are part of the Resisters, an underground organization fighting the alien invaders who have taken over the world. Apparently these alien invaders have mind control over anyone who has hit puberty because of the way brains work after that age. The adults in the Resisters live underground so that they are protected from the mind control of the aliens. Ethan, of course, believes none of this until he sees it for himself and is attacked by one of the aliens large insect robots. In order to save himself he climbs into a large wasp robot stolen and reprogrammed by the Resisters to fight the aliens. After this adventure, he decides he would rather just go back to his normal life and flies the wasp robot back to his neighborhood. But unfortunately, things will never go back to the way they were because the aliens know that he is aware of their mind control and send in adults to capture him. Will Ethan escape and decided to join the Resisters after all? Well, this is the first book in the series, so you can probably guess what his choice is. A fun science fiction novel tame enough for elementary students.

Laura says

Good for 5th/6th grade boys. Reads like a combo of Power Rangers and Transformers. Who wouldn't like giant symbiant bugs with full weaponry?

Tami says

Haven't received yet, just received notice I had won. 4/27/11
Received Saturday I think. I plan to start after my current read is done. 5/2/11
Started and finished Saturday 5/7/11

Ethan is the captian of his soccer team even though he is younger than most of the other players. He thinks soccer is the ultimate battle until he meets Madison and Felix. He is then thrown into a battle that only children can fight to save humans minds from alien control.

I thought this book would be a fun read for my nephew who loves Halo (even though I feel he is too young for it) and is too young for those books. I wasn't expecting to like it as much as I did though. A different take on alien abduction/domination. It is great for boys, because it adds sports, fighting and bugs. :)

orton41290 says

Eric Nylund (who I know as the guy who writes the good Halo books) sets up a new series about elementary school kids who use sentient(?) mecha-bugs to fight off the aliens bugs who have taken over our planet. While it does sound like a pretty standard plot with kids substituting for adults (since it's book for kids), but there are a few things that set it apart. We start off with our main character, Ethan Blackwood, playing

mecha-soccer (which is weird because even though the book is just beginning, it never really sets off the "This is the future!" alarms I would have expected it to by that point. Ethan kids abducted by two kids his doesn't recognize, who reveal to him that all of his whole life has been a charade. The Collective has taken over the planet and is draining it of all its resources. All of the adults have been brain-washed and are part of the Collective's hive-mind. When kids reach puberty, the spores that the Collective spread begin to affect them as well and the turn, too. There aren't too many surprises, but I won't go and ruin any. The Resisters is a children's book, easily topping out at a middle school level. With this, the plot is writing is simple and there is little character development. The plot feels pretty bare. I wish it was more fleshed out, because even though it really isn't a new or novel idea, it does have some interesting elements that kept me reading. The target audience will probably enjoy it, but I felt a little let down.

Cheryl says

Kinda like K.A. Applegate's Animorphs series?

D.J. Sylvis says

A few interesting ideas, but so massively formulaic and one-dimensional that I can't recommend it to anyone. There are much, much better books to spend a day or two with.

Logan says

I wanted to read this book for awhile,when i first saw it in middle school.I got to say this book is amazing,and i recomand it for sicfiton people.

Ariana Wilson says

This book was really good. It first began with a boy. His name was Ethan. One night, after his soccer game, he got kidnapped by two kids, a boy and a girl. The girl's name was Madison, and the boy's name was Felix. They told him that fifty years ago the world got invaded by aliens. The aliens tried to take over everyone's mind on that planet, but for some reason it only worked on adults after they hit puberty. Ethan thought they were crazy, until they showed him the giant bugs hiding in a huge cave. They told him that they used to be normal bugs, but then the Resisters took them and made them big. They were part robot, and to control them you had to go inside them. They told Ethan that he could have the wasp. That was when Ethan knew they weren't kidding. Then they told him that when kids were sent off to high school, if they hadn't hit puberty yet they would give them this shot and that would make the aliens take over their mind. Ethan then remembered that his sister, who was only thirteen years old, would go to high school early. She would go the next day. Ethan knew he had to stop them from taking her. But first Madison and Felix took him to the Resisters' hidden base underground. There were adults there that weren't mind controlled. If you stay underground the aliens can't control your brain. He tells their leader that he needs to go save his sister, but she says it's too risky. So, at night, when they're all asleep, he goes outside and takes his wasp with him. He goes to his house to try and see if his sister is still there, but she isn't. Then he sees a note from his mom, saying that her and his dad took his little brothers and went somewhere safe. That's when he found out that somehow they

weren't mind controlled. Then he went back outside, and he saw the thing that was taking her to the high school. He tried to save her, but the thing that was taking her was too guarded, so he couldn't. But he convinced himself that he would save her someday. Then he went back to the Resisters' base. That's when they told him he could be a resister.

At first in the book Madison is super mean to Ethan. She won't stop telling him how stupid he acts. But then, in the end of the book, she gets nicer. They actually become friends.

I really like this book. It was super fun to read. But, it was kind of sad, because it would suck to find out that your parents are being mind controlled by some aliens. But it was still really good.

Randy says

Young Ethan Blackwood had a normal life until he's grabbed by two other kids, a boy and a girl, and forced to face uncomfortable truths. He doesn't believe their story, it's too crazy, until they show him the proof.

Fifty+ years before, aliens had seized control of Earth, blanketing the Earth with mind control the instant they achieved orbit. What this race hadn't counted on was that children that hadn't gone through puberty weren't controlled. Gathering them into camps until they did didn't work either. They needed a normal upbringing until that time in order to be functional in the new order.

So small towns were placed all over the world where children were raised until the time, where they were then sent to prep schools.

That was what the kids believed.

There is a resistance though. A small group in an underground bunker originally set up to preserve plant and animal life in case a nuclear war broke out. As long as the adults remained underground they were safe.

So children became the warriors, fighting in giant, mutated insects, cyborgs with computers, a cockpit, weapons, stealthware, and armor built in.

Ethan is destined to be one of the fighters, in his wasp armor, and later to be one of the leaders.

A lot of fun this one. Even for an old "young adult" like me.

Leslie Preddy says

After an important soccer game one evening, Ethan is thrown into a war for his world. It is a futuristic world where sports are played wearing a 600 pound exoskeleton and students must have good grades, be well-rounded with extra-curricular activities and are tested for mental, physical, and social readiness for high school. Ethan is an MVP soccer player who is kidnapped from his yard by two very young resistance fighters. The only problem is that Ethan didn't even know there was anything to resist and although Ethan has a hard time believing it at first, he learns of the alien invasion of earth which occurred over fifty years ago. The aliens use mind control to subdue humans. After the invasion, large families are raised in special neighborhoods because until children's brains mature during puberty, they are immune to the alien mind control, so Ethan learns his whole childhood had been a lie. The aliens use the adult human race as worker bees for labor and research while the aliens strip the earth of all its resources. In their quest, the aliens mutated insects into giant exoskeletons which are a combination of living mass and technology and have

sensors and weapons to enhance strength and speed, which the resistance has been able to tame, enhance and use in the battle against the aliens. Interestingly, the Insect Combat Exoskeletons, similar to Ethan's sports suit, are sentient creatures with personality, not just robots. This novel is full of great action sequences with real-life reactions, like when Ethan becomes so frightened in the middle of his first battle in a wasp exoskeleton that he abandons the battle, escapes for home, and tried to pretend his life can go back to normal. The author creates a fantastic premise for putting the kids in a leadership role: the adult resisters must stay underground or risk alien mind control, so the adolescents must be the fighters and heroes because the adults may never leave their subterranean protection. The world created is perfect for young readers in its simplicity and believable in its logic. Although much is left unanswered, the end is a satisfying segue to the next book in the series, for which readers will be begging. This is the beginning of a new high-interest series which will grab the reluctant reader and video game fans.

Orion W says

Ethan is a normal kid until one day two kids named Felix and Madison Tell him that the world taken over by aliens called the Ch,zar 50 years ago. Soon he sees them fight the aliens with robot bug suits. He crashes his bug into a soccer field and later has to help Felix and Madison find their bug. Then he crashes into a train to save his sister. He wakes up in the underground base. He goes home and is captured but is saved by the Resisters.

At the beginning of the book Ethan is kind of cowardly and doesn't want to be a hero. "If he survived one more day he would someone else do all the hero stuff." Later Ethan learns to be brave and fights the Ch,zar and becomes a Resister.

I really liked the book and how intense it was it was very action packed. I liked how the moral is to think for ourselves. And it is a really good science fiction book.

Hannah Belyea says

Kidnapped by a pair of strange kids after his soccer game, Ethan is shown the truth about his once peaceful world: aliens have invaded and taken over the minds of teens and adults, and it will take his skills and the help of the Resisters to fight back! Nylund begins an exciting series that takes great characters to new heights with plenty of epic action and cool tech. Can Ethan truly trust the Resisters, or would it just be safer to live in the lie?

An Odd1 says

Modernized John Christopher's Tripod series, where boy joins fight against aliens exerting mind control <https://www.goodreads.com/review/show....> Gory brawls build to local battle. Setup is clumsy, but asks for answers worth exploring. Hero has standard to reach from cowardly start, to girl I like better now. Kids have deadline to puberty, then struggle and weapons change. I read serieses for ages above and below mine, but disremember seeing any overlap niches.

Starts like a video game, where kids take on weapon set by climbing inside giant insectoid suits. Ethan Blackwood 12 dons stainless steel soccer frame, ignores Grizzlies coach tactic "Superior long-range strategy wins over superior immediate tactics" p 73, 209, hydraulically kicks "300' from goal" p 6.

Out of place teens Madison and Felix kidnap Ethan, show him wasteland, minerals harvested, protected by drones, giant insectoid monsters. Fifty years ago, alien Ch'zar Collective absorbed human minds above ground. "Some were far underground and were shielded from their mind powers" p 32 and must stay below after puberty to stay separate, safe.

"Automatic cameras .. see everything. All the time" p 74. "All the kids were prisoners, watched 24 hours a day" p 75. Dad advises "Not so much a lie, but not giving away any real information either .. how to *lie*". Ethan's "suit of armor" is "a *wasp*" p 54 whose telepathic bond threatened to supersede his own will. "In some cases the insect mind actually dominated" p 205. Madison zooms inside a dragonfly; Felix in a beetle. I don't know what an "I. C. E. system" stands for and don't care.

Twice Ethan runs away from truth. False suburban neighborhoods feed high grade potential leaders to Collective. Upper 'schools' are fake.

Ant lions "spewed out stinking gray-green ichor" p 179. Ethan rips off a locust head. "Goo and brains squirted over the school courtyard with a wet *splat*" p 185.

"Two enemy rhinoceros beetles lumbered toward" him p 185. "A dozen rhinoceros beetles landed in a V-formation .. were Resisters in midnight blue armor .. A swarm of yellow-and-black-striped Infiltrator wasps engaged enemy red wasps and drones" p 186. Beetle is Resister, or not; wasp is Infiltrator, or not.

"A giant midnight blue rhinoceros beetle landed. It had better be friendly" p 189. How does fighter tell their team? Not even vision screen with computer lights colored for friend or foe.

Ethan has "run away from battle .. then rushed *into* a fight against direct orders" p 207. Ethan's sister Emma, on fast track, among those headed to out-of-town higher 'school' aboard zeppelins are bait for Resister attack. After Colonel Winter rejects his battle plan, Ethan heads in alone, charged with treason on return. (view spoiler)

Rachel says

The Resisters is about a boy named Ethan who lives in the future where world war four has passed and where technology is really advanced. After walking home from a soccer game Ethan meets two kids about the same age as they are and they tell him that the world was invaded by aliens who stopped world war four. They give him a choice to join them or to go back to the life he has already. And obviously he joins them. I picked this book up because it looked really interesting because of the cover. I finished this book because I was interested in how Ethan lived and I liked the action in the story. I would recommend this book to Gabrielle because this had a lot of action in it and I think that she likes action books.

L_manning says

This was a very fun book! The Resisters is the story of Ethan Blackwood. A sports and science standout at his school, Ethan's future is looking very bright. Then he meets two strangers who tell him that his world is not as it seems. His life is quickly turned upside down, and he begins a new adventure.

The action goes at a quick pace. It's exciting, but still age appropriate. It reads a bit like a video game, with lots of action punctuated by some story thrown in there. I think it's a great summer read for kids, especially ones who enjoy video games. It should keep their interest, but also brings up good points about thinking for yourself. The book goes by very quickly, and it leaves you wanting more.

I think this is a great kid's book. It will get them involved in the story quickly, and the characters are easy to relate too. I think it can serve as a gateway book for kids to show them that they can be just as exciting and fun as other forms of entertainment. Any book that can get kids reading is awesome to me.

Book won on Goodreads.
