



## Never Fade

*Alexandra Bracken*

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**Never Fade** Alexandra Bracken

**Book two in the hit series that's soon to be a major motion picture-now with a stunning new paperback look and exclusive bonus content!**

Ruby never asked for the abilities that almost cost her her life. Now she must call upon them on a daily basis, leading dangerous missions to bring down a corrupt government and breaking into the minds of her enemies. Other kids in the Children's League call Ruby "Leader", but she knows what she really is: a monster.

When Ruby is entrusted with an explosive secret, she must embark on her most dangerous mission yet: leaving the Children's League behind. Crucial information about the disease that killed most of America's children-and turned Ruby and the others who lived into feared and hated outcasts-has survived every attempt to destroy it. But the truth is only saved in one place: a flashdrive in the hands of Liam Stewart, the boy Ruby once believed was her future-and who now wouldn't recognize her.

As Ruby sets out across a desperate, lawless country to find Liam-and answers about the catastrophe that has ripped both her life and America apart-she is torn between old friends and the promise she made to serve the League. Ruby will do anything to protect the people she loves. But what if winning the war means losing herself?

## Never Fade Details

Date : Published January 2nd 2018 by Disney-Hyperion (first published October 15th 2013)

ISBN : 9781368022460

Author : Alexandra Bracken

Format : Paperback 507 pages

Genre : Science Fiction, Dystopia, Young Adult, Fantasy

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## From Reader Review Never Fade for online ebook

### ambsreads says

*Never Fade* was mind blowing. I've stared at my phone for so long trying to work out how to describe my feelings on the plot and the characters. My conclusion is I can honestly not write my feelings. I just loved this book. It didn't suffer from second book syndrome. I loved the characters. This book made me gasp, cry, laugh, and get mad along with the characters. That's all I can say, I don't know why I'm incapable of writing reviews for the books in this series -- especially considering I usually start my review while I'm reading the book so I can put my feelings as I come across them, but for some reason I can't. They're honestly purely amazing and all I can do is say read them right now!

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### Ninoska Goris says

??Español -- English??

Yo lo sabía. Lo sabía. Los segundos libros casi nunca son buenos. Y este definitivamente no es una excepción.

Me pareció absolutamente aburrido, me encontraba haciendo otras cosas en el tiempo que usualmente dedico a la lectura. No me atraía leer. Porqué? Tengo mis razones:

1. Pasan una cosa tras otra, volviéndose predecible. Demasiados plot twists.
  2. Ruby tiene ocho meses entrenando con los de la Liga de los Niños y ese entrenamiento no se nota. Le dan una paliza tras otra. Tiene el síndrome Celaena Sardotien: uno solo le da una paliza y luego ella sola puede sin esfuerzo vencer a varios.
  3. No conecté con Ruby y me desesperaba lo mucho que se quejaba de ser un "monstruo" en vez de pasar a la acción.
  4. No me creí el que Ruby le borrara la memoria a Liam y que luego con un simple beso el lo recordara todo.
  5. El final tiene un cliff hanger horrible.
  6. Y por sobre todo, porqué debía morir ese personaje? Porqué? Por supuesto que voy a leer el tercer y último libro de la serie, pero estoy segura voy por el momento a darle unas pequeñas vacaciones a las distopias.
- ????

I knew that. I knew it. Second books are almost never good. And this definitely is no exception.

I found it absolutely boring, I found myself doing other things in the time I usually spent reading. I was not attracted to read. Why? I have my reasons:

1. It is one thing after another, becoming predictable. Too many plot twists.
2. Ruby has eight months training with the League of Children and that training is not noticed. They beat her up constantly. She has Celaena Sardotien syndrome: one only gives her a beating and then she alone can effortlessly beat several.
3. I did not connect with Ruby and I was desperate how much I complained about being a "monster" instead of take actions.
4. I did not think Ruby would erase Liam's memory and then with a simple kiss he would remember everything.
5. The end has a horrible cliff hanger.
6. And above all, why should that character die? Why?

Of course I'm going to read the third and final book of the series, but I'm sure I'm going to give a little vacation to dystopias for the moment.

## Melissa ♥ Dog/Wolf Lover ♥ Martin says

This book surely ended on a cliffhanger!

But it was more of an in your face cliffhanger =)

Ruby has joined the Children's League and the others in the first book are out on their own. I should have re-read that one first but it's all good.

Some of the older characters do make their way back into this book. Along with some new ones that Ruby has met in the League. Vida, Jude, Nico and I liked Cate who was sort of their supervisor. I wasn't sure about Alban at first but it seems he was working for the greater good. Unless of course they pulled the wool over my eyes.

Ruby goes out on OPS with different groups to try and help some other kids that have talents like she does. The kids in the book have different colored labels. Ruby is an orange and she's one of the most dangerous with red being the top one. There's this whole description about it you can read about in the first book!

Ruby can change your memories or just read your mind. Or she can kill your brain so to speak. But she's a good girl and doesn't do harm to those that aren't dangerous.

In the first book Ruby had a thing going with Liam but he is out of the picture for now because of reasons. But his brother Cole is brought into the League and then all kinds of things start happening.

Runaways, finding kids that were thought dead that are still alive, search and rescue kids, try not to die while being shot at or bombed. And then we always run into jerk kids that want to run things and be over other sweet kids and gah!!!!!!!

Oh there is a jerk kid in the League named Rob, I loathed him. You can't trust everyone.

Then toward the end a sweet person dies.....NOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!

At the end there is a big ole revelation that I wonder if it will come to pass in the next book. I want it for the kids but . . . lets just say I like them the way they are to a certain extent.

MY BLOG: [Melissa Martin's Reading List](#)

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## Christine Riccio says

Couldn't put it down! Suspenseful action packed and full of wonderfully lovable characters. Can't wait to release a discussion video... in late october? November? WHENEVER this baby get's released =)

## Trina (Between Chapters) says

DNFed at page 140.

I liked The Darkest Minds, but it's been about a year since I read it. I thought that I remembered how things ended, but I felt so lost getting into Never Fade. I couldn't connect to the new characters and didn't know why Ruby was... doing... whatever... she was doing?? See, I really don't know?

I have learned that I just do not mesh with Bracken's writing style. I think she has amazing premises but I always get lost in the descriptions. I've struggled through 3 of her books and even though I've liked 2, it was a pain to get through them. I'm not in the mood to slog through something right now. I even tried this one on audiobook to help boost me along, but it was even harder to focus with the audio. I'm frustrated because I own the whole trilogy, but I've had them for like 3 years now and I just don't care about them anymore. I'm going to leave Ruby's story as a standalone for the time being. I may return to this series in the future, but right now I'm too frustrated and disinterested to continue.

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## Laz says

Abso-freaking-lutely amazing. Go figure why it took me 8 months to read this. I don't even know why. I'd loved the first book and I guess delay after delay, I forgot about it entirely. A grave mistake because this is a swoon-worthy sequel that had me hyperventilating from page one to page.

In case you're not familiar with the plot, then let me hook you up. Some years before, a disease that targets children spread. Some died but some didn't. Those who didn't die have powers. The government with the excuse of rehabilitation took those children from their parents and kept them in special facilities in order to keep them under control.

In the first book, Ruby, as sixteen-year-old girl wanders about after breaking out from Thurmond (a rehabilitation facility) when she meets some kids from the League of Children, an organization led by a former politician, who wants to take down the current governor of the United States. Ruby is an Orange, meaning she can get inside people's head, see their memories, take control of them. In the first book she's not able to control her powers all that well which is why when she touches the hand of a member of the League of Children, she sees his memory of killing two children mercilessly because he thought they were worthless. She then runs away and comes across, Liam, Chubs and Zu and thus the adventure begins.

Ruby has evolved so much in the sequel, it's impossible to think of her as that fragile, broken little girl she was when all of this began. Now, she's working with the League, and runs ops for them. But something is brewing inside the League, someone is trying to take control and do as they please with those they deem worthless. With the help of Jude and Vida, fellow LoC members, she must retrieve the lost usb stick that Liam's brother, Cole, lost. Liam is unaware of the existence of such a stick sewn inside the jacket, which he took from his last visit home, and was his brother's. So, that means Ruby has to search for Liam.

*"I feel like I'm losing my damn mind, like your face has been carved into my heart, and I don't remember when, and I don't understand why, but the scar is there, and I can't get it to heal. It won't go. I can't make it fade. And you won't even look at me."*

Hence the name of the book: Never Fade

Don't worry, there's a lot of Chubs in this, I love the guy too. I promise you, you're going to love the new characters. Jude is really young and he's so protective it's kind of cute. Vida, well she's badass, and "bitch" is her favorite word, but you're gonna warm up to her.

There are lots of twists, lots of unpredictable moments, and a cliffhanger in the end which accounts for an omg moment. Alexandra Bracken, despite her age, she's pretty brilliant when it comes to describing military procedures and writing amazing, action-packed scenes.

If you liked the first book, then I don't doubt that you'll like this as much. In my case, I loved the first book and loved this book even more, because of the character development, and evolution of the world, that's been taken to a whole new level.

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### **Lara says**

[Holy crap, I've been anticipating this book for ages, but after *that*? I'm freaking obsessed! I assumed the blond-hair, blue-eyed figure was Liam, initially. But after reading this I'm not so confident. I'd love to know what you thought of the teasers - let me know! (hide spoiler)]

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### **Lauren says**

*"Sometimes you're the one speeding along in a panic, doing too much, not paying attention, wrecking things you don't mean to. And sometimes life just happens to you, and you can't dodge it. It crashes into you because it wants to see what you're made of."*

This book is AMAZING!!!! I could not stop reading it and there were so many things happening so I was never bored. This is really one of the best books I've read. Everything was perfect and the plot was so good and throughout this whole book when I was reading I experienced so many different emotions. This was a very big improvement compared to the first book. *Never Fade* was, even more, action packed and there were so many new characters.

First of all, I did not expect to give this book a 5-star rating like I did with the first book because, to be honest, it took me three months to actually get into this book. I got 21% through and put it aside for a long time because I just wasn't enjoying it that much. Before I picked this book up, on my feed there was a review by someone (I can't remember who), they said that they didn't enjoy the book as much as the first because they didn't read it straight after. I was worried because I didn't pick this book until a while after so I thought that was going to happen to me. Then when I got 21% through and didn't continue I was even more worried that I was going to hate it but I actually ended up loving this book so much.

There were a lot of new characters in this book. But, there wasn't only new characters but all the character from the first book changed drastically. Ruby went through a lot of character development in this book. She was stronger and had a lot more control over her abilities. This was mainly due to the League and all the training she received from them. She finally had control over her life and knew what she wanted to do. Chubs also changed immensely and so did Liam. Liam sadly wasn't in the book the whole time he was there

for the last 60% I think.

There were a lot of new characters like Vida, Jude, Cole, and Nico. I really liked Vida a lot and all her sass. I totally ship her and Chubs together. I think they would be so cute together. She was so funny with her sarcastic comments. I loved Jude so much but I felt like despite the fact that he was 14/15 years old I pictured him more as a 12-year-old because compared to the other characters he was scared most of the time but then he did start to stand up and fight. (view spoiler) I also really loved Cole and his personality. I feel like all these new characters were amazing and I liked them a lot. Although Zu sadly wasn't in this book.

I know I won't be reading the third book anytime soon and with that cliffhanger, I don't know what I'm going to do. I mean sure it's totally okay for an author to just leave their readers hanging. Absolutely fine. Now I have to wait until I can get my hands on the third book. This book was a big improvement from the first but I still love the first book. Also, I recently found out that THE DARKEST MINDS IS BECOMING A MOVIE AND I AM SO EXCITED FOR IT WHENEVER IT COMES OUT!!!!

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## SerenaSmiles says

[image error]

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## Petrik says

### 3.5/5 Stars

After I finished reading Never Fade, I'm quite sure that if I read this trilogy back when I was 15-17 years old (well the books weren't out yet 10 years ago so it's impossible), it would've been included into my favorite shelves and received 5 stars from me, for both books so far. However, I'm 27 now and again I should state, Never Fade still doesn't provide anything new to the genre. I've seen everything here before in movies, video games and it's still the same teenage-survivor-dystopia genre which have been done to death but at this point it's safe to say that I enjoyed reading this much more than watching Hunger Games or the disastrous Divergent series. It's probably a bit unfair to compare them since I haven't read the Hunger Games or Divergent books but I watched the movies and I don't think this time the books can redeemed the stain I have towards them, especially the Divergent series.

Never Fade is actually better than the first book in almost every aspect and yet I decided to give a 3.5 star rating. The reason for this is because of the two cons I have on the book:

1. There's still nothing new here.
2. Ruby, the main character is so irritating.

In the first book I was so-so with how I felt about her but this time, she grew to be much more annoying and considering everything in the story is from her POV, it's quite painful to read. It's like she's in an endless PMS cycle which made her emotional as fuck in all her decisions. One moment she act like she's the strongest person with her self-called "I'm a monster, don't come near me or I'll kill you" <-- not exact quote and the next second she broke down because of that strength with the same reasoning, over and over again. Sure there's a reason for this and she's a flawed heroine but it's still annoying seeing this repeating since the beginning of book 1 until now. Luckily, there's a positive outcome to be taken from this. She made all the other side characters shine bright like a diamond (yeah you can sing that Rihanna song now)

All the side characters are well created. Liam is not as bright as he is in book 1 but after all the things he's been through from the beginning and the novella, it's really understandable why he act like he did. However, Chubs is back in full throttle and he became my favorite character so far, I still have to read book 3 to see if it will remain that way. He's the epitome of what a true friend should be, doesn't matter how young or old you are. You look at what he does and you know you should aspire to be like him in maintaining your friendship. He's realistic, not afraid to tell your mistakes straight to your face, loyal and despite all the disagreement, he will do anything to help his friends. The greatest new addition side character goes to Jude but I can't tell you anything about him since he appeared since the beginning of the book til the end and I don't want to spoil you, just know that there's a lot of humor coming from him and Chubs.

There's more actions this time compared to before and yes, most of them occurred around the Powers the characters have. Red for Pyrokinesis, Orange for Mind Control, Blue for Telekinesis, Yellow for Electrokinetics and Green for Superb Intellectual but I find it there's still some unexplained reasoning behind how Orange's power work. Hopefully it will redeemed in book 3.

Lastly, there's much more plot progression this time and the writing is still great as before. Seriously, I really like Bracken's writing as she managed to pull me so much into caring towards the characters she created and stories that's been overdone before. I'm almost quite sure by now that when they made the movies of this trilogy, I will dislike it cause you know the simple equation, books is always better than the movies.

I'm closing this review with my favorite quote from the book by Ruby for you to sink in when you're having a bad day. (there's a lot of great ones by the way)

*"Life isn't fair." I said. "It's taken me a while to get that. It's always going to disappoint you in some way or another. You'll make plans, and it'll push you in another direction. You will love people, and they'll be taken away no matter how hard you fight to keep them. You'll try for something and won't get it. You don't have to find meaning in it; you don't have to try to change things. You just have to accept the things that are out of your hands and try to take care of yourself. That's your job."*

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## **mich says**

In a word, disappointing.

I thought The Darkest Minds was awesome, I found the plot interesting and the supporting characters and their relationships with each other to be very well done. I had only 2 issues with that book -- the pacing and Ruby. Unfortunately, in this sequel, those 2 things still sucked and worse, the suckiness was actually magnified.

The thing is, I really liked how the first book ended. I didn't like that it came about as a result of Ruby's stupid decisions, and the cliffhanger itself came from her Worst Decision Ever (view spoiler), but it sure did intrigue me and had me highly anticipating the sequel -- I thought it opened up all kinds of doors to the story and I was excited to see where the author would take it.

Turns out, she didn't take it anywhere interesting. This book dragged A LOT. It was just the same things happening over and over again, which made for a really boring and tedious read. The only reason I diligently kept pushing through was because I wanted to see what had become of Liam. I do love me a good emotional reunion and I was hoping to get something amazing here. Did I get it? Um, not quite. It was ok, but I was left wanting. (view spoiler)

And then there's Ruby.

Ruby is more stupid than ever, to the point where I just can't root for her anymore. Her decision making process is completely fucked up. The things she does MAKES NO SENSE. The worst thing about it is that she fails time and again to learn anything from her mistakes.

And her pity parties, ugh, her damn pity parties! I was hoping my invitation got lost in the mail (seeing as I didn't particularly enjoy myself at the ones she threw in the first book), but no, that hope was futile. The girl is still moaning on and on and wallowing about being a monster, blah blah blah.

Some other thoughts:

Ruby and (view spoiler) -- one of the few things I liked in this book was their relationship. His character gets some good development and his friendship with Ruby is done really well and feels authentic.

Ruby and Liam -- their relationship on the other hand, didn't quite feel as believable. I thought their romance in book 1 was very sweet, but it wasn't close to what this book tries to ram down your throat. Where the hell did this deep, deep soul love between Ruby and Liam come from? I for one, wasn't convinced of it. (view spoiler)

Vida and Jude -- like the supporting characters we met in the first book, these two were really nice additions. Bracken does a great job again of giving us a diverse and memorable supporting cast.

Oh well, that's that I guess. I don't think I care enough anymore about our main character Ruby to make a point of reading the next book. If I happen to come across it when it comes out, maybe I'll check it out (if only to hopefully see Zu again).

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## Jessi (Novel Heartbeat) says

Wow, you guys, just wow! Sometimes middle books have this thing called Second Book Syndrome – yeah, you know what I'm talking about – and you end up being totally disappointed. Such was NOT the case with this one! It was just as good as the first book. It blew me away!

As I mentioned in my review of the *In Time* novella, Alexandra's prose is very engaging. She has a way with words! She's also a pro at characterization. All of the characters felt so real. Actually, I kinda wish they were, so we could be friends in real life. I loved the characters just as much as I did in *The Darkest Minds*! Ruby! Liam! CHUBS! I love Chubs. I love him so much. He's definitely my favorite character of this series!

"I'm not the same person. I'm not, and I know that. I'm not okay with who I am or what I had to do, but I'm also not okay with us separating again! Don't do that! Don't just disappear! If you're mad at me, then hit me or something – just don't think that I don't want to stay with you. I'll always want to stay with you!"

I LOVE HIM SO MUCH I CAN'T TAKE IT. Even when he was being an asshat, it was because he cared too much. He covers up fear and pain with anger, and sometimes takes things out on the wrong people. But underneath it all, it's because he cares about them. He just wanted to protect them. And the best thing? There is no romance between Chubs and Ruby. It's strictly platonic. I LOVE THIS. It's so, SO rare to see relationships like that anymore! It was the *perfect* platonic best friend relationship. \*hugs book to chest\* (Also, I miss Zu!!)

Ruby is probably one of my favorite heroines I've ever read. She's fiercely loyal to her friends and would do anything to protect them, even if it meant making the hard decision. Sacrificing something for them. It's funny, because she didn't view herself in a very positive light – actually, in this book she struggles a bit with the darkness inside of her. She thinks she's a monster, and jokes about her “winning personality” – even her peers see her as a bit of an ice queen. But, I think she's brave and selfless. She puts others above herself constantly, and deep down the most important thing to her is keeping her loved ones safe.

I had something to accomplish and people to protect, and no one – especially not Rob Meadows – was going to keep me from it so long as there was breath in my body.

I also enjoyed meeting the new characters! I really liked Jude. He was simple, and a bit clingy and okay, kind of annoying sometimes; but he had an innocence to him, and he was like a ball of sunshine. I swear, *nothing* got that kid down. It was endearing, though...I wanted to hug him! (view spoiler)

And then there's Vida. Oh, Vida...how do I feel about you? I still don't really know. I'm not gonna lie, I wanted to knock her teeth out in the beginning. She was just so...*insufferable*. Good lord, she was awful. Like Chubs said, *she'd drive a saint to murder*. But then, suddenly, she wasn't so bad anymore. She started looking out for Ruby and the gang, protecting them. It was clear that she started caring about them. And she started growing on me. (Like a fungus.) I started laughing at her horrible comments instead of being annoyed. She has a terrible sense of humor, I'll say that, but the back and forth banter between her and the others was actually pretty amusing.

“You – you – I can't -” Chubs sputtered, too furious to form an actual sentence. “Come out here. Right now!”

“Come and get me, big boy,” she sang back. “I know I don't have the parts you like, but we can always make it work.”

“Oh, like a functioning brain?” he shouted.

“I'm trying to make up for the sleep I lost when you started screeching at each other like cats in heat.”

“Miss Vida,” Liam said, “has anyone ever told you that you are positively the whipped cream on the sundae of life?”

She glared at him. “Anyone ever told you your head is shaped like a pencil?”

Another thing I loved about this book: I was 100% emotionally invested. I got a little misty sometimes at the *stupidest* things! (It's kind of embarrassing, really.) (view spoiler) ALL THE FEELS, GUYS. Lots of warm fuzzies, lots of shocks, but also sorrow, I'm afraid. Ruby and Liam's interactions were so heartbreaking. I hated the distance between them! (view spoiler)

There were so many times where I was holding my breath, frantically flipping the pages to find out what happened next. So much action – this book was explosive! There was never a dull moment. Even when there wasn't anything happening (which was rare anyway), it was interesting.

Boy, does Alexandra Bracken know how to write an ending. I should have known, though, with the way both *Darkest Minds* and *In Time* ended. (view spoiler) I'm almost afraid to read the last book!

### **Favorite quotes:**

*"Sometimes you're the one speeding along in a panic, doing too much, not paying attention, wrecking things you don't mean to. And sometimes life just happens to you, and you can't dodge it. It crashes into you because it wants to see what you're made of."*

*"Life isn't fair," I said. "It's taken me a while to get that. It's always going to disappoint you in some way or another. You'll make plans, and it'll push you in another direction. You will love people, and they'll be taken away no matter how hard you fight to keep them. You'll try for something and won't get it. You don't have to find meaning in it; you don't have to try to change things. You just have to accept the things that are out of your hands and try to take care of yourself."*

**This review was originally posted on Novel Heartbeat. To see a breakdown of my assessment, please visit the full review!**

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### **Booknut says**

*Expected publication: October 2013*

October. *October*. **OCTOBER?!**

So...far...away!! \*cries\* How can I deal with the pain of the cliffhanger for a FULL YEAR?!

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### **Jesse (JesseTheReader) says**

I liked this so much more than the first book! I can't wait to see how it comes to a close with the last book.

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### **Regan says**

Holy shit.

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