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The Ghost Files 2
At seventeen years old, Mattie Hathaway has survived her mother attempting to kill her, multiple foster homes, and a serial killer. Oh, and she sees ghosts on a regular basis too. You'd think Fate would give her a break right? Umm…nope, not Mattie. Dan Richards is the only person in the entire world Mattie trusts, but then the boy goes and breaks her heart. Mattie does what she does best, she runs and lands herself slap in the middle of a haunted house full of ghosts turned vengeful that want Mattie to join their ranks. Only bright spot on all this? Eli Malone â€“ the gorgeous boy with the beautiful aqua eyes that makes her feel things sheâ€™s never even imagined before. Sheâ€™s not sure what to do with him, especially when Dan shows up glowering at him. Sheâ€™ll figure Eli out if she can survive the house. The ghosts are bound and determined to kill her so sheâ€™ll be one of them. Now if she can just figure out how to survive them and the demon stalking her, she might be able to decide what to do about her feelings for Dan and Eli. That is if she can survive the night in the house.
You don’t need to read the first book in order to understand what’s going on with this second book because we’re provided with plenty of back filler. But if you start with this second one you’ll probably then want to go back and read the first one and you’ll already know too many things. About to turn seventeen, Mattie sees ghosts and has a very rare ability to not only see them, but can hold a conversation, be touched (and hurt) by them and can see into the scary realm that exists between this world and the next and requires a reaper to help them get through. When she discovers that her best friend, Officer Dan, is dating someone she knows, she is fit to be tied and to get away from everyone, joins a parapsychologist she knows who is checking out a haunted house in New Orleans. In this one she faces new threats, begins learning about her origins and some of the things that she can do. Having felt very alone for most of her life since entering the foster care system, the people she considers family grows quite a bit in this story. Horror and deception on more than one front are uncovered. I found the story to be engaging and while Mattie’s actions sometimes come across as a two-year old throwing a tantrum, in most cases she’s very self-aware of why she acts the way she does and the author does a good job of bringing the reader along for the emotional ride. I found the story to be engaging and really like the characters and different relationships. I’ll be downloading the third book right away as there is more for Mattie to learn, as well as the result of things uncovered in this story.

Words can’t express how PHENOMENAL this book is! I was hesitant due to the cover image and not having read book 1, but it was free so why not. I enjoyed EVERY second and couldn’t put it down!! The story was an original, fast-paced suspense filled with surprises, a hint of romance and written poetically. The only thing that irked me was being reminded several times how her hands got injured...got it first time, but otherwise perfect!

Okay first I hate the reviews that sum up the entire book. Really it’s a review your writing not cliff notes. I really enjoyed the supernatural parts of the book. The pace was good. I had a little trouble with identifying with the main character Mattie. She is a bit confusing and made of so many contradictions. I enjoyed the book. I think I will continue with the series. Maybe some of the contradictions will become clearer to understand what really makes Mattie. I hope it was helpful, I really don’t like spoilers. It is hard to write without giving into the urge to tell all. : )

Seriously. I love this series. Book two? Amazing. Not sure I’m overly thrilled about some of the twists, but I guess it’s not all about me, right? Hopefully they will twist back in book three. I never in
a million years expected to fall so hard for this series, but I did. I love these characters. I want to take them in my arms and tell them that everything is going to be alright, that it’s going to be okay. This one, caused the hair on the back of my neck to rise at one point, which never happens. I LOVED it. I’m not sure that I was overly surprised by the way things ended, but that again is normal for me. Did I still love it? I did. I love the words chosen and the visuals I had in my head throughout this book. This is an absolute must read series for me, if ghosts and the bizarre are your thing, this is for you. On to book three!!! (Oh and I am already counting the days until December for book four. I really wish Apryl could just open her imagination and have the book appear. Too much? Well, I do.) Read these books!!

Now, here’s a talented author, Apryl Baker, who knows how to write stories for young adults! This is a real eye-opener if you want to see ghosts like character Mattie Hathaway. She’s soon going to be 17 years old, and she’s been plagued with visits from ghosts and also has conversations with them. Since the time when she was 5 years old, she has seen ghosts. That’s ever since her mom tried to kill her. But it’s her secret, she’s weird enough without others knowing her secrets. Her current foster mom, Joan Myers, is not the best foster mom, but she’s not the worst that Mattie has lived with. It’s summer, she’s out of school, and the only place she feels comfortable hanging out is at the local library. Her best friend is Officer Dan Wilson, four years older than her, who has always been there for her when she has hard times and needed support. He’s been away to Quantico training with the FBI, but comes back early for one reason: to give her a birthday present. He had tried to get his parents to take in Mattie, but his mom feared the girl just has too many bad issues. But Dan and his dad are taking Mattie out to dinner which Mattie will devour! His present to her is a cell phone, a Galaxy S-4. There are several people sharing her party, including Eric, a boy who was killed by Mrs. Olson, also a former foster mom to Mattie. He’s a ghost who has borrowed the mind and body of a living boy. The only one who knows everything that Mattie has gone through is Dan ... and he can also see ghosts. This is a dynamic thriller/mystery which will astound and captivate teenagers. It’s vigorously well written with much trauma the characters must deal with. It’s a real page turner!

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