

Be More Chill

Ned Vizzini

Reviewed by: Anika 16

Star Teen Book Reviewer of Be the Star You Are! Charity

www.bethestaryouare.org

Getting in with the popular crowd and the girls and be tough. And no one knows that better than Jeremy Heere, a dorky high school student. He uses his humiliation sheets to keep track of his progress in becoming Cool. Being Cool is what Jeremy desperately needs to date the girl of his dreams, Christine. Though he isn't getting anywhere with everyone laughing at him behind his back. That all changes when he discovers the Squip, a pill with a supercomputer inside to help you achieve your wildest dreams. The Squip guides Jeremy into a cooler and better life, but not without a cost.

Jeremy's Squip was a crazy idea I had never heard of before and was an incredibly interesting concept to read about. I'm sure many other teenagers will relate to Jeremy's character and the struggle fitting in. It was fun following Jeremy's journey to becoming one of the cool kids. I enjoyed Vizzini's style of writing. The story develops at a smooth pace and comes to a very unexpected ending.

Sadly, I felt like I didn't have much good to say about Be More Chill. I found Vizzini's portrayal of girls to be rather demeaning. You can't always win someone's heart with the right clothes and words. Additionally, I felt there wasn't a greater lesson to learn and I guess found Jeremy's lust a tad bit disgusting. The overblown clichés and drama were not exactly easy to swallow. I do also want to warn readers of the sex, drugs, and bad language present in the book. For these reasons, I would suggest this book to anyone 14 years or older. The book would make a great gift for fans of humor and high school drama. But I personally think that readers will better enjoy Ned Vizzini's other book, It's Kind of a Funny Story.

Recommended Titles:

It's Kind of a Funny Story by Ned Vizzini

Teen Angst? Naaah... by Ned Vizzini

The Other Normals by Ned Vizzini

Cool by Ned Vizzini