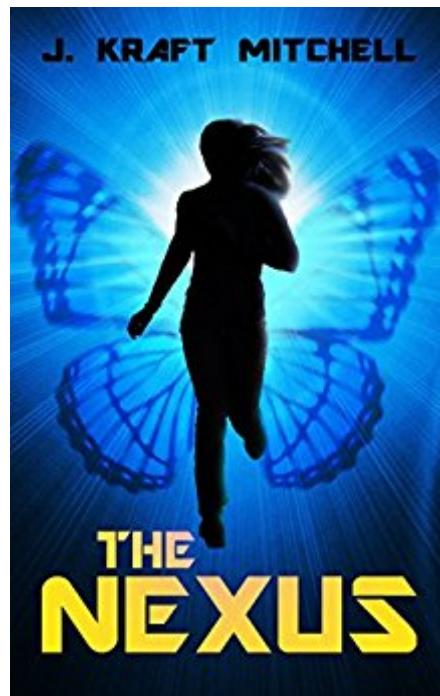


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The Nexus: Book 1 Of The Nexus



Synopsis

IN THIS CITY, CRIMINALS MAY JUST MAKE THE BEST CRIME FIGHTERS. The United Space Programs built the floating city to be a better place for humanity, free of the crime and corruption that riddled the cities of Earth. They failed. Less than a century old, the satellite metropolis of Anterra now harbors a massive criminal underground. Jill Branch is just one of countless teenagers who have been sucked into the illegal activities of the city. She's an errander--a pawn for crime lords to hire for their grunt work. But her latest task turned out to be more than she bargained for. Now she's on the run from an undercover government agent. But she's about to find out he doesn't want to arrest her; he wants to recruit her. And if Jill agrees, she may be part of one of the most unique crime fighting projects in history.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The Nexus tells the story of a man-made satellite planet circling earth that was originally created to house the most virtuous and intelligent people hand selected by the government. But humans are humans and soon crime lords ruled the special satellite. That's where the Nexus comes in. J. Kraft

Mitchell proves himself as an experience science fiction author with his ability to jet the reader into a new and fascinating world in under 60,000 words. The plot moves quickly and retains a level of charm that is often lacking in some sci-fi. This story has heart. The ending of the book is satisfying and achieves a level of redemption that is hard to get in a mere 200ish pages. I'll definitely get book two when it comes out.

Nexus is an amazing novel, part gritty reality, part inventive science fiction, and somehow heart-warming in the mix. The descriptions are taut and vivid, the dialogue snappy and character-revealing. I am a teacher, and would recommend this book. I really enjoyed it myself. It is no clichÃ© to call it a "page turner," and it sheds affirming light on the universal need for a fresh start without being simplistic. Kids will like its dystopian futuristic setting, and sci-fi lovers will uncover a stunning twist on the super-smart computer which becomes a character in itself (Sherlock is its name....). It's encouraging to know that author Mitchell has created a series (there are three in all so far), for the characters in NEXUS are just realizing their potentials for good as individuals, and as a complex but loyal team. I read many books, and am pretty demanding as a reader: fresh descriptive phrases, believable character dilemmas, mystery, suspense....they are all here in J. Kraft Mitchell's THE NEXUS.

Mitchell has crafted a believable futuristic world and populated it with meaningful characters. In the midst of a top-rate plot, he postulates some questions at the core of all people: what makes life fulfilling, significant? In the course of a story with surprise twists we start to see answers to this question arise, answers that are believable because they tap into our deep longings and questions. But don't worry, the story doesn't get lost in philosophical play. It is a good story. The characters seem to act the age that they are instead of being 18 year olds inhabited by middle-aged thinkers with middle-aged skills. Most young adults will enjoy this story because they can identify with the characters and will be pulled into this page turning story. As an adult, I found the story pulled me in, which is quite a feat. I hope people take the time to consider the ideas of this story as much as they simply enjoy the story. I'm looking forward to seeing what Mitchell will produce as he hones his writing skills and gets the broader readership that he deserves. In a murky sea of teen fiction, this is a refreshing addition.

This was an all around good book. The writing was crisp, the plot was taut, and the characters were introduced well. I say introduced, because there is not a lot of backstory around any character

except the main protagonist, but I'm assuming more details about the other characters will emerge in the subsequent books of the series. The overall feel I got from the book was it was like a two hour pilot episode for a new TV show. There were enough details to draw me into the world the author created, yet enough things left unresolved to entice me to find out more. If this were a TV show, after the pilot I would definitely be tuning in next week for more. I recommend this book to teenagers as well as advanced mid-grade readers. Parents need not worry about the content. There is some violence in this book, but it is not written about too graphically, nor is it the primary focus of the book. There is no inappropriate language either. I was glad to see the author write "so-and-so cursed" instead of writing a bunch of swear words. I took this approach with *Atomic Aardvark* too. It lets the reader decide what cuss words were said, isn't vulgar, and doesn't come across as too cheesy (like when movies get dubbed for TV). Give this book the attention it deserves and read it. You won't be disappointed!

Would it be possible to create a new world in space and populate it with only people who would be altruistic and help to create a better society. The United Space Agency thinks it is. By using advanced techniques to screen, investigate and separate those with criminal tendencies a new world could be developed where crime is no longer a problem. But it seems no matter how the choices are made, some people will turn to crime even when they are educated, given good jobs and the opportunity to begin a new world. Jill is a product of this new world. Born in space she has never been to earth. Her entire life has been led somewhere between earth and the other planets. Taught by her mother early on to lead a life that is somewhere between hardened criminal and messenger girl she is moving on a path to her own destruction. Having reached her late teens she now has a choice, continue her criminal enterprise, find a new career or join a team of oddball crime fighters. The choice she makes will change her life in ways both unexpected and frightening. Will Jill be prepared to take responsibility for her actions or will she, once again, run out of those who put their trust in her. A classic good vs evil story with some interesting characters, not all of whom are human, the story feels a bit Orwellian without the overriding prison-like atmosphere. In a society where everything you read, write or say can and will be monitored, can one girl make a difference? This is a Young Adult story with a small measure of violence, a minor G-rated budding romance and plenty of action and escapes. The writing is a tad simplistic and the motivations open without much mystery, but as a teen novel it works well. Karen Bryant Doering, Parents' Little Black BookMistBlueEeyore@gmail.com

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