The Hawthorne Legacy by Jennifer Lynn Barnes

The Hawthorne Legacy by Jennifer Lynn Barnes is the second book in The Inheritance Games series and is equally as captivating as the first. In the previous novel, Avery Grambs discovered that her inheriting Tobias Hawthorne’s multi-billion dollar empire was simply pure luck. However, in this YA mystery, Avery realizes that perhaps she was misdirected and that she has deeper ties to the Hawthorne family than she thinks. Through a series of riddles and clues left behind by the eccentric Tobias Hawthorne, Avery and Tobias’s mischievous grandsons work together to figure out the hidden truths behind the Hawthorne family and Avery’s connection to Tobias.

I originally became interested in reading this book after loving the first book in the series so much. I would give this book a 7/10 because even though I thoroughly enjoyed it and would recommend it to others, it sometimes felt like its only purpose was to set up the next book in the series and the plot was definitely more convoluted compared to the first book. Avery continues to be a favorite character of mine, as she remains levelheaded and logical, while struggling to adapt to this new luxurious, yet cut throat life. I think people who enjoy solving mysteries, love triangles, family drama and plot twists will love this book because The Hawthorne Legacy never failed to surprise me while I was reading it.

Again, I haven’t read too many mystery novels recently other than The Inheritance Games, so I can’t think of any book that would remind me of The Hawthorne Legacy, but I have heard of the whole series being compared to Agatha Christie’s work.

I think the cover conveys the book’s subject fairly well, since it has objects like a compass that are a part of Tobias Hawthorne’s game and other objects like swords and crowns that represent the old money aesthetic of the novel.

Submitted by,

Emily T.