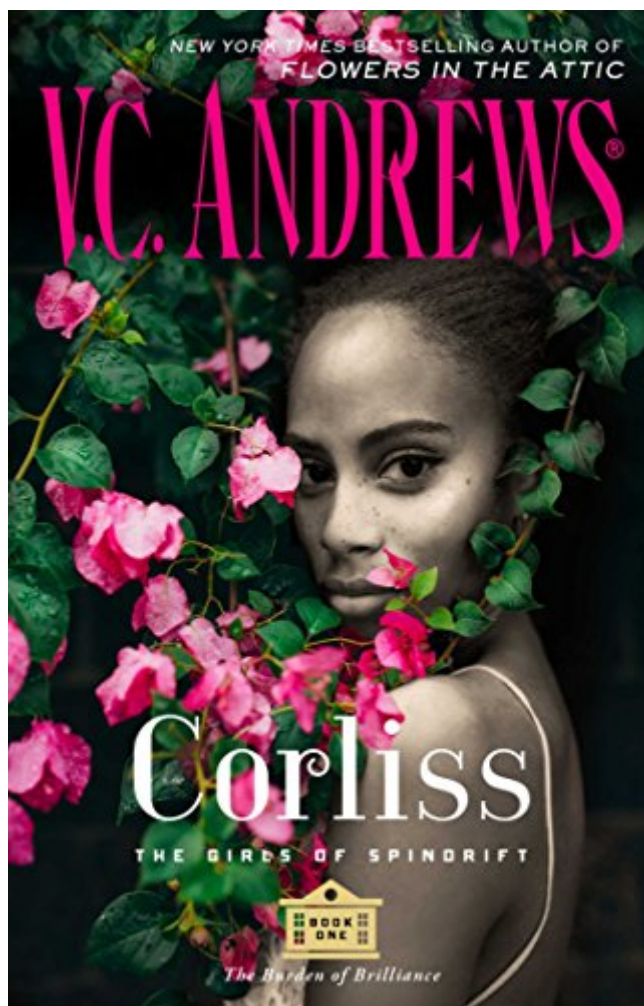


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Corliss (The Girls Of Spindrift Book 1)



Synopsis

Book One of the Girls of Spindrift. From the New York Times bestselling author of the Flowers in the Attic and My Sweet Audrina series, now Lifetime movies, here begins a haunting new series featuring highly intelligent teenage girls who struggle to survive a specialized high school and find their place in a world that doesn't understand them. Such is the burden of being brilliant. Corliss is not like the other girls at her Los Angeles high school. Incredibly intelligent, shy, and a loner, she has difficulty in fitting in. What's worse, a clique of girls is out to get her because she's not down with their games. On the night of a school party, her refusal to take drugs with the girls leads them to take matters into their own hands—spiking her drink. Quickly, Corliss's entire life is turned upside down and no one—not even the handsome valedictorian who had agreed to go out with her—looks at her the same way. Just when she's wondering if she'll be able to return to her high school, someone mentions a new place: Spindrift. Could that be her way out? Note: The four Girls of Spindrift e-novellas together form a prequel for Bittersweet Dreams—available now!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book was too short. I will not continue to read this series.

The best thing here was I liked Her! 

I received a copy of this title to read and review for Wicked Reads 4.5 Intrigued stars. Young Adult age-range: 14+ due to drug-use, bullying, and sexual situations. Instead of a short-story, I'd call this a serial. To be honest, as an old-school V.C. Andrews fan, I wasn't sure what to expect, as I stopped reading the ghost-written books about a decade or so ago. I began reading V.C. Andrews in the late 80s, early 90s when I was about 10 years old. When the opportunity arose to read this series, as well as after checking out the blurb, I honestly went into reading thinking I would be disappointed. I know that sounds odd, but I think that actually was a help, not a detriment, as I thoroughly enjoyed Corliss. Corliss was a very short introduction to Corliss, our narrator. 4 character introductions, showing events leading up to their admittance into Spindrift, trying into the full-length novel, Bittersweet Dreams. Corliss is a genius, a teenage Temperance Brennan (Bones). She's highly intelligent, cerebral to the point she has a difficult time interacting with her peers, making friends, or dealing with her family. Her mind works on a different wavelength than normal folks. Her narration made it difficult to connect at first, but after I realized her characterization, it made it much easier. Corliss doesn't have any girl friends- she's too smart, risk-assessment, and she is also beautiful. A self-admitted Beyonce. Since she and her family are poor, she's at a public school that is barely teaching its students as it is, let alone the brightest of the bright. Corliss isn't 'smart', like how we mean when we say genius- it has another meaning entirely. She's struggling, because in order to get a college acceptance, where they want well-rounded academics, she has to take care of her younger siblings instead of engaging in extracurricular activities, which also puts a divide between her and her peers. After something horrific (the event gave me gut-twisting feels), Corliss is set adrift farther than before, so when the opportunity arises for a different life, she takes it with both hands, even with the guilt of leaving a family who doesn't understand her behind. Corliss' introduction left me wanting more, eager to read Donna to see how the next narrator ends up at Spindrift, and is making me feel anticipatory for when the girls finally make it to the school. No doubt, in true V.C. Andrews fashion, nothing good will come from where they will end up. I cannot wait to read more. I'm seriously surprised. Recommended to fans of V.C. Andrews, readers who enjoy young-adult-aged characters, and those who love twisty, gut-twisting thrills. Gorgeous cover.

Corliss is a high school student that learned early on in life that she was considered a genius and way ahead of her peers and most adults intelligently. This however causes problems with the other students at her school with their constant teasing and tormenting. When Corliss is cornered and offered drugs by a group of girls at her school she refuses listing off the side effects and possible outcomes of unknown drugs. This of course leads the girls to more teasing and eventually they find a way to spike Corliss's punch with the drugs landing her in the hospital and changing her look on life. Corliss is the first book of the Girls of Spindrift series by V.C. Andrews. The series is a set of novellas that are prequels to the book Bittersweet Dreams which has already been published. I have not yet read Bittersweet Dreams myself but I don't believe it would necessary to have done so to understand this novella, it seems to be mainly some character building for what would be coming in Bittersweet Dreams. The story of Corliss was an OK one but with this one being novella length I think it suffered a bit with things not being expanded on more. I understood what the author was trying to go for with building up Corliss character with what happened to her but it all seemed so rushed that some actions become a bit questionable and perhaps not very realistic. It did however make me curious to read Bittersweet Dreams to see whatever happens to Corliss in her future. I received an advance copy from the publisher via NetGalley.

"The four Girls of Spindrift e-novellas together form a prequel for Bittersweet Dreams" At roughly 80 pages long, this quick YA read is more character building for the book Bittersweet Dreams than a full story unto itself. In a series of novellas, the author is setting up the backstory for the secondary characters to help with the overall story. In this novella (named for the title character) Corliss is hazed by some mean girls after she declines their offer of drugs because she's too smart to go down that rabbit hole. When the girls turn to retaliation, Corliss finds herself in even deeper trouble; which ends with a visit from her teacher and an offer she can't refuse. Overall, I really wouldn't suggest this as a stand-alone and it can be a bit confusing for someone who hasn't read or doesn't know that these are basically prequels for already established characters from a main book. But with that being said, fans of Bittersweet Dreams will love these additional little stories of their favorite characters and how they all ended up in the novel. For something to read while waiting or if you loved Bittersweet Dreams and want to know more about your favorite girls, this was an interesting quick read with all the Je Ne Sais Quoi of V.C. Andrews that we know and love.

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