

Title: Lexicon
Author: Max Barry
Imprint: Penguin Books
Publisher: Penguin
Publishing Group

On sale date: April 1, 2014

ISBN: 9780143125426 Format: Paperback

BOOK RESUME: LEXICON

BOOK SYNOPSIS

Stick and stones break bones. Words kill.

They recruited Emily Ruff from the streets. They said it was because she's good with words.

They'll live to regret it.

They said Wil Parke survived something he shouldn't have. But he doesn't remember.

Now they're after him and he doesn't know why.

There's a word, they say. A word that kills.

And they want it back . . .

REVIEWS AND PRAIS

"A dark, dystopic grabber in which words are treated as weapons, and the villainous types have literary figures' names. Plath, Yeats, Eliot and Woolf all figure in this ambitious, linguistics-minded work of futurism." —Janet Maslin, *New York Times*

"Imagine, if you will, a secret group of people called Poets who have the power to control others simply by speaking to them. Barry has, and the result is an extraordinarily fast, funny, cerebral thriller." —Time Magazine

"Imagine blending the works of Neal Stephenson with Michael Chabon and the end result would come close to the world envisioned by Barry. The words brilliant and exemplary aren't adequate enough to convey the amazing craft of Lexicon." —Associated Press

"A clever blend of sci-fi and thriller, with touches of romance and humor . . . persuaded me anew that words are, indeed, the bomb." —Dallas Morning News

"It's a pitch-perfect thriller, a jetpack of a plot that rocketed me from page one to page 400 in a single afternoon, and it kept me guessing right up to the end. Imagine Dan Brown written by someone a lot smarter and better at characterization and at hand-waving the places where the science shades into science fiction, and you've got something like *Lexicon*." —Cory Doctorow, Boingboing.net

"[A] speedy, clever, dialogue-rich thriller." —Salon

Updated 10-31-2024 Penguin Random House

Contact BannedBooks@penguinrandomhouse.com

^{*}Publisher suggested age range covers the wide range of readers publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate range for their diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.

"A crazily inventive conspiracy thriller." —io9.com

"Brazen and brilliant." —The Wichita Eagle

"Mind-bending . . . an action novel that nicely exercises the brain as well as the heart rate." —Shelf Awareness

"A large helping of both action and thought . . . anyone who knows 1984 will remember the fanger of allowing people to love each other—but Barry handles it with skill." —Infodad.com

"An absolutely first-rate, suspenseful thriller with convincing characters who invite readers' empathy and keep them turning pages until the satisfying conclusion." —Booklist (starred review)

"A scary and satisfying blend of thriller, dystopia, and horror." —Library Journal

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- A New York Times Summer Beach Read
- An Amazon Best Science Fiction & Fantasy Pick June 2013
- A Best of June iBookstore Pick
- A Time Magazine "What to Read Now" Pick
- A Huffington Post Best Book of Summer 2013
- A Salon "Summer's Best Reads"
- A Hollywood Reporter "Buzzy Books for Hollywood's Reading List"
- A Pittsburgh Post Gazette Beach Read
- A Kirkus Ten Best Novels for Summer Reading 2013

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

<u>Discussion Question and Author Q&A</u>

Updated 10-31-2024 Penguin Random House

Contact BannedBooks@penguinrandomhouse.com

^{*}Publisher suggested age range covers the wide range of readers publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate range for their diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.