Reviewer: Anonymous
School: El Dorado High School
Grade: Senior
Book Title: Black Point
Book Author: Jacqueline West
Rating: 4

Lucia Sorenson is a teen living in the small town of Black Point, Wisconsin. She helps out at her grandfather's Viking museum, which is full of artifacts from the Swedish ancestors who founded the town. She's trying hard to hold on to everything in her life: her friends, who want to leave for college, her grandfather, whose age is catching up to him, and even Black Point itself, which is supposed to be swallowed up by the widening Mississippi River in the far future. She hopes to keep everything in her life exactly the same to the best of her ability, until she meets Max Nazarian, a boy her age. Max's aunt recently bought the town's abandoned hotel, which is supposed to be haunted. With the river water rising ever higher and strange events happening around town, it's up to Lucia and Max to look through the history of Black Point and solve the mystery surrounding them.

I think the book accomplished what it was going for pretty well. The chapters are split into two different points of view from two different time periods, which I thought was interesting and well executed. I think Lucia and Max's dynamic is fun, if at times uncomfortable due to Lucia's resistance to change in her life. I didn't see most of this book's twists coming, but they didn't feel entirely out of the blue either. I enjoyed the story's allusions to Norse mythology.

I would recommend this book. It's fun, creepy, and well written. Anyone who likes stories with mysteries, some horror, strange small towns, and paranormal happenings should check out this book.