

Reviewer username: anonymous
School: Valencia High Grade: senior
Booktitle: The Secret history author: Donna Tartt
Rate 1-5(1-lowest to 5-highest) -3.5

The Secret History is a dark mysterious book about the murder of Edmund "bunny" Corcoran. As Main character/ narrator (Richard Pape) reflects on the murder of his close friend Bunny, you spiral into the suspects and motivations of all the characters that could have potentially murdered Bunny. In the novel we also follow Richard in college and his odd obsession with a group of students that he eventually joins, this is when you start to see the odd cult like behaviors of the friend group, but also the rivalries and as the readers we try and seek who would be the main suspect of Bunny's death.

I enjoyed this book. I liked it as it was very slow paced. I still felt eager to read and flip each page. The characters were all complex, which I really like complex characters especially when they aren't quote on quote perfect, each character had a secret and something hidden which made them all so mysterious and intriguing. What I can say I disliked is that a lot of the book is a lot of dialogue, which can be hard to keep up with as most of the time the narrator is writing conversations that he sometimes is not a part of. What shocked me the most would be the ending, it's not what was expected but a good ending overall but I enjoy that it's not a huge plot twist or a big reveal but rather a resolution that wouldn't be guessed.

I would recommend this book to teens who enjoy horror or true crime as it very much feels like you are in the case and in these characters lives. The book is also very aesthetic to dark academia and if that is your thing I would recommend this book a hundred percent.