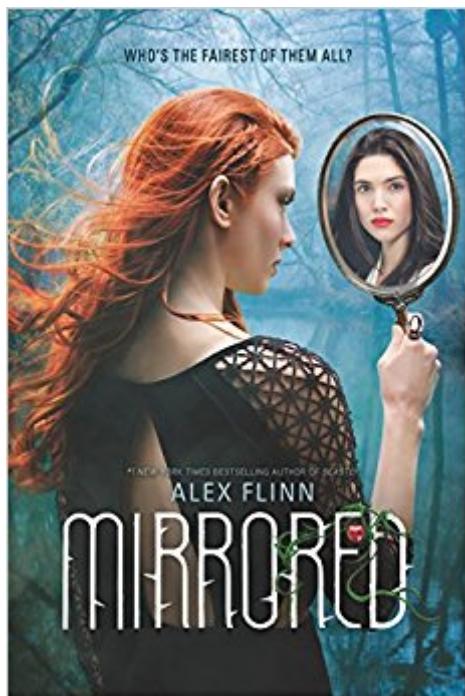


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# Mirrored (Kendra Chronicles)



## Synopsis

In #1 New York Times bestselling author Alex Flinn's modern and mysterious YA retelling of "Snow White," beauty is in the eye of the beholder and true love doesn't necessarily mean Prince Charming. Celine's life is the stuff fairy tales are made of. She's beautiful, talented, and brave. Unfortunately, her tale comes complete with a wicked stepmother! When Violet steps into Celine's life, everything changes and weird things begin to happen to her—bizarre accidents, strange illnesses, and rabid animal attacks. Celine doesn't feel safe anywhere. It's almost as if some hateful witch is out to get her. And there is. Violet has been waiting all her life to have Celine's father to herself. Getting rid of his gorgeous daughter is child's play for a witch as powerful as she is. Happy-ever-after isn't enough for Violet. She wants to be the fairest of them all, and Celine is in the way . . . but not for long. Forced to take refuge with her friend Goose and his family, Celine gives up everything she loves and goes deep undercover. But will it be enough to fool Violet or will Celine's fate be decided by a reflection in a magic mirror? And where do you find Prince Charming in Miami anyway? Mirrored is a modern retelling of "Snow White" told from the points of view of Violet, Celine, and Goose—with all the magic and mystery readers will love.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Gr 8 Up  The author of *Beastly* (HarperCollins, 2007) offers another classic fairy tale reimagined in a contemporary setting. The first part takes place in the 1980s and tells the story of Violet, an ugly duckling who discovers that she's a witch and makes herself beautiful so she can have everything she's been denied  especially the attention of her childhood friend Greg. However, despite her newfound beauty, Greg chooses popular Jennifer instead. The second section jumps to present-day and is told by Celine, Jennifer and Greg's daughter. After Jennifer's death in a suspicious zoo accident, Violet reappears and sweeps Greg off his feet. The stepmother's attitude toward Celine chills as she grows into a beautiful adolescent and the teen takes comfort in a new friend, Goose, who is a small person. When Greg dies suddenly in a car accident, an older witch intervenes and hides Celine, telling Violet that the girl has been killed, but eventually the evil woman uncovers the lie and succeeds in poisoning Celine. The third part follows Goose on his desperate attempt to wake his friend from her magical coma. Convinced that only a prince can save her, he sneaks into the hotel room of Celine's favorite pop star, Jonah Prince, to convince him to kiss her. This retelling of "Snow White" is at times clever but also heavy-handed. Celine has recurring nightmares about apples that make her feel "unsafe" and Violet has a fascination with mirrors that gets overplayed. The sympathetic backstory for the evil witch is an interesting twist. Realistic dialogue and a lively writing style will help readers gloss over the author's missteps. **VERDICT** This title will be popular with younger teens who enjoy Flinn's previous books and are willing to overlook the overdrawn plot points.  Sunnie Lovelace, Wallingford Public Library, CT --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Thrilling and thought out to the last detail, *Mirrored* is a page-turner that assures enjoyment. 4  stars. (Romantic Times Book Reviews)

I love the way Alex writes ! I have to say my favorite character is Kendra in all the books. She is such a well written character , I can't get enough of the witch ! The story is a retelling and a twist of the Snow White tale. More like the evil queen tale , which I like better. Always had a soft spot for the evil queen. Always hated Snow White. Anyways the story goes from the evil queens character from a age do ten , falling in love with the only friend she has, going into adulthood and finding that the boy she loved , loved the mean girl. It's a great story of how beauty has a cost on both ends. So good !

I really enjoyed this different twist on the story of Snow White. It was lots of fun. I found it quite

original how various aspects of the story were tied in. I would definitely say that this is for teens or older as there is some mature content including death. The only reason I gave four stars rather than five is that it did seem to drag on at times and was certainly longer than a casual read.

Alex Flinn has mastered the art of the fairy tale retelling and she really demonstrates that mastery with Mirrored. In her capable hands, the fairy tale is just a point of departure, for exploring deeper, darker parts of the human psyche. And maybe that's what all fairy tales have always been for. In any case, this is one of her best and I had to read it nonstop.

Great heroine, funny hero, unconventional plot, terrific witching--what a great antidote to reality in 2016. The author is always quirky and creative.

I started off really liking the book but then things became redundant and I found myself not wanting to finish. But I did feel a lot of the pop culture references were forced and didn't really need to be included.. And there are a lot! It could also be an age thing. I might just not be into YA like I used to.

Excellent!

Whoa baby! This book was brilliant! Right from the start I knew this was going to be an on edge of your seat type of book. I just couldn't put it down and just one of the best reads of the year. Alex has such talent. Anywho... its a spin on snow white with a lot of twists. So Violet is a loner, and not by choice. She doesn't fit in with the people around her. She doesn't have good looks. Her eyelashes are so light, it's like she doesn't have any. Her nose isn't perfect. And well, she just didn't get any of her mums genes. Her mum is this lovely lady with the looks and body to match. So ever since she was young, Violet was teased, ignored and not welcome among those kids in school. She gets used to it, and one day, she sorta discovers a hidden secret. She saw an injured bird during school. She touched it and all of a sudden the bird was healed, talked to her and then was able to fly away. Like what?! Violet has no idea what just happened and sorta shrugged it off after. But Greg saw her, but he keeps that secret and soon they become best friends. Two ignored kids, and now they hang out all the time. Talk about the birds, doing school work, hanging out and just having fun. But the good times wouldn't last too long. Greg goes away for the summer, and when he comes back, he's changed. He filled out and now has the looks and fits in with the popular group. Completely ignoring Violet like they were never friends. So Violet is clearly crushed and has a hard time dealing with it. A

few days later she runs into a woman. She is a witch and reveals to Violet just what she is too. Now things are about to change for Violet. The pace will pick up. You get sucked into the book even more and just simply love the book. Violet is an awesome character and I loved reading about her. There are other characters you will read about in the book. They are all awesome. But Violet was my favorite. If you've read Alex's other books, then you know this is just going to be awesome. If you haven't read any books by Alex, then start with this one and then work onto the others. You won't regret it!!!

Mirrored is a modern adaptation of Snow White, told from the perspectives of Violet (the stepmother), Celine (Snow White) and Goose (Prince). The addition of Violet's POV serves the purpose of empathizing with her, because she wasn't evil. She was picked on as a child, bullied because she was considered ugly by people around her (even her mother), until the point she is brainwashed into the idea that beauty alone would help people love her. She is lonely and desperate for love and affection and even Kendra, who takes her under her wing as her daughter isn't enough for her. Also, she is stuck on her childhood friend Greg, who is of the same mold as the others as he goes for the mean but pretty Jennifer (who bullied Violet). Years later, she gets her revenge on Jennifer, but she doesn't stop there. Even after getting Greg, she is so warped by her hatred for Jennifer she turns into an evil witch and starts tormenting Celine because she thinks she is like her mother. Celine, has grown into a beautiful girl, but lonely because her beauty keeps people wary of her. Then, when she participates in a play, she meets Goose, a short boy who uses humor as a defense mechanism because his height is what people see first in him. Both of them are kindred souls, and a budding friendship develops. When Celine's life is threatened, his family takes her under their wing, until the evil witch comes a-knocking with a bag of poisoned mangoes (mangoes which Celine bites into without peeling off the skin?) and it is up to Goose to find a suitable prince for her to get a kiss from. Kendra's appearance throughout the book is a highlight as she is motherly to Violet but also realizes that she didn't notice her turning dark. Kendra's loneliness is also apparent in the fact that she first adopts Violet and then Celine. I found Violet's parts the most interesting, because the author chronicles her character development so well. Celine's parts were a bit slow, and the pace was dragging along for Goose's. The ending, is naturally what you would expect, with a small twist that wasn't really unexpected considering how the book was written.

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