



Freakling (The Psi Chronicles)

By Lana Krumwiede



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A thrilling, fast-paced dystopian novel about the dangers of unchecked power and the dilemmas facing a boy torn between two ways of life.

In twelve-year-old Taemon's city, everyone has a power called psi — the ability to move and manipulate objects with their minds. When Taemon loses his psi in a traumatic accident, he must hide his lack of power by any means possible. But a humiliating incident at a sports tournament exposes his disability, and Taemon is exiled to the powerless colony. The "dud farm" is not what Taemon expected, though: people are kind and open, and they actually seem to enjoy using their hands to work and play and even comfort their children. Taemon adjusts to his new life quickly, making friends and finding unconditional acceptance. But gradually he discovers that for all its openness, there are mysteries at the colony, too — dangerous secrets that would give unchecked power to psi wielders if discovered. When Taemon unwittingly leaks one of these secrets, will he have the courage to repair the damage — even if it means returning to the city and facing the very people who exiled him?

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 5-7-This dystopian novel packs a punch with an original premise and a fully developed future society. Taemon, 12, lives in a city where everyone can move objects with their minds, a power called psi. One day, while arguing with his brother, he hears a strange voice and is asked to make a difficult choice. His decision costs him his supernatural abilities. Taemon attempts to fake it for a while, but it's next to impossible. Without psi, he can't even feed himself, since using his hands would reveal his secret. It doesn't take long before he ends up exiled to a colony of "powerless" people. The colony isn't as backward as Taemon was raised to believe, though, and there he learns valuable lessons about the power he lost and the power still inside him. Meanwhile, his cruel older brother is being groomed as the True Son, a much-revered individual who, according to prophecy, will bring on the next Sacred Cycle. All of this leads to a gutsy conclusion. While the concept of psi and all of its intricacies is described well, at times the narrative feels repetitive, reminding readers that every action is accomplished using it. However, memorable characters; a smooth, suspenseful plotline; and a fascinating premise make this debut a worthy addition to the genre. Give it to kids who are a little too young for Suzanne Collins's *The Hunger Games* (Scholastic, 2008).-Mandy Laferriere, Staley Middle School, Frisco, TX(c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

From [Booklist](#)

This tale of telekinesis and false messiahs by debut-novelist Krumwiede starts slowly before barreling toward an unexpected and disquieting finale. The city of Deliverance has existed in protected isolation for centuries. The inhabitants all have the power of psi, which allows them to live their lives without touch; everything is controlled by their minds. Twelve-year-old Taemon loses his psi in an accident and is exiled to a colony of duds. What Taemon does not yet understand is that the loss of his psi was not an accident but the result of his own remarkable power and destiny. Deliverance is a theistic society where the citizens have exchanged civil liberties for the everyday ease of psi and, as such, are powerless to recognize a coup when it takes place right before them. Taemon is a thoughtful protagonist whose ability to dismantle an object and learn how it works takes on immense symbolism when he confronts his broken society. His solution is drastic and morally ambiguous, and it will leave readers mulling over its justice. Grades 5-8. --Kara Dean

Review

Memorable characters; a smooth, suspenseful plotline; and a fascinating premise make this debut a worthy addition to the genre. Give it to kids who are a little too young for Suzanne Collins's *The Hunger Games*. —School Library Journal

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Rita Heil:

As people who live in the actual modest era should be upgrade about what going on or facts even knowledge to make these individuals keep up with the era which is always change and make progress. Some of you maybe will update themselves by examining books. It is a good choice to suit your needs but the problems coming to an individual is you don't know which you should start with. This Freakling (The Psi Chronicles) is our recommendation to make you keep up with the world. Why, because this book serves what you want

and want in this era.

Norman Eiland:

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to try and do! A lot of people spent their sparetime with their family, or their very own friends. Usually they doing activity like watching television, planning to beach, or picnic in the park. They actually doing same task every week. Do you feel it? Will you something different to fill your current free time/ holiday? Might be reading a book could be option to fill your no cost time/ holiday. The first thing you will ask may be what kinds of e-book that you should read. If you want to try look for book, may be the publication untitled Freakling (The Psi Chronicles) can be good book to read. May be it could be best activity to you.

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