

Book Title: *The Mysterious Benedict Society and the Prisoner's Dilemma*

Book Author: Trenton Lee Stewart

Reviewed By: Maria Lee, Age 20

Star Teen Book Reviewer of Be the Star You Are! Charity

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The Mysterious Benedict Society and the Prisoner's Dilemma is the third book of the Mysterious Benedict Society trilogy, and it continues the story of four highly talented children named Reynie, Candace, Sticky, and Kate who embark on a third mission to face the evil Mr. Curtain. This time, Mr. Curtain aims to steal the Whisperer, his invention that he plans to use in order to “brainsweep” society, from his twin brother Mr. Benedict. When a distraught Constance runs away from the others, the Mysterious Benedict Society go after her, only to run headfirst into trouble. The children must escape the grasp of Mr. Curtain and save themselves from a dire fate.

DiCamillo successfully crafts another exhilarating, adventurous tale of the gifted foursome. The abundance of plot twists and page-turning cliff hangers, two elements characteristic of all the Mysterious Benedict Society books, keep the reader engaged throughout the entire time. In addition, the illustrations decorating the start of each chapter are always a pleasure to look at, for they help me form a mental image of the characters and their adventure. The unique personality traits of each child continue to shine through in this novel, and their shared sense of loyalty and courage is quite inspiration. The ending resolves many conflicts, including some that had persisted throughout the entire trilogy.

The Mysterious Benedict Society and the Prisoner's Dilemma is a great book that can be enjoyed by parents and children alike. I highly recommend this book for students in grades 3 – 5 (ages 11 – 13). It is a great book to check out of the library for a one-time read, or to purchase to read over and over again. There are also some advanced vocabulary words embedded throughout the book that students can learn. I recommend reading the first two books in the series before reading this book, for many details about the characters' lives are explained in the beginning of the trilogy.

Recommended books

***The Mysterious Benedict Society* by Trenton Lee Stewart**

***The Mysterious Benedict Society and the Perilous Journey* by Trenton Lee Stewart**

***The Extraordinary Education of Nicholas Benedict* by Trenton Lee Stewart**