



Mothership

Martin Leicht , Isla Neal

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Teen pregnancy is never easy—especially not when extraterrestrials are involved. The first in a new trilogy.

Elvie Nara was doing just fine in the year 2074. She had a great best friend, a dad she adored, and bright future working on the Ares Project on Mars. But then she had to get involved with sweet, gorgeous, dumb-as-a-brick Cole--and now she's pregnant.

Getting shipped off to the Hanover School for Expecting Teen Mothers was not how Elvie imagined spending her junior year, but she can go with the flow. That is, until a team of hot commandos hijacks the ship--and one of them turns out to be Cole. She hasn't seen him since she told him she's pregnant, and now he's bursting into her new home to tell her that her teachers are aliens and want to use her unborn baby to repopulate their species? Nice try, buddy. You could have just called.

So fine, finding a way off this ship is priority number one, but first Elvie has to figure out how Cole ended up as a commando, work together with her arch-nemesis, and figure out if she even wants to be a mother--assuming they get back to Earth in one piece.

Mothership Details

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From Reader Review Mothership for online ebook

Christina (A Reader of Fictions) says

Mothership came highly recommended from a number of highly trustworthy sources, but, I have to admit, I had a healthy dose of skepticism about me ever being able to appreciate it. I mean, it's a book about pregnant teens. I'm not a big fan of anything about pregnancy, let alone with a focus on teenagers. However, Leicht and Neal manage to craft a hilarious, albeit occasionally really gross, story out of the premise of pregnant teens in space.

Though I try not to go too crazy comparing books to other books, since it doesn't tend to reflect well on either of them, I ust have to here. Mothership reminds me heavily of Libba Bray's *Beauty Queens* in the style of the humor, only, instead of beauty queens stuck on an island, we have pregnant teens on a spaceship. I didn't like this one quite so well, but I think that if you liked *Beauty Queens*, you will definitely appreciate this and vice versa.

The best part of the book is definitely the humor, which Leicht and Neal keep up throughout. Elvie, the MC, has plenty of sarcasm and makes lots of hilarious observations. On top of that, the whole situation, and Elvie herself, are patently ridiculous, adding additional layers of laughs. There will definitely be a few moments that will make all but the most determinedly grim chuckle out loud. There's a wide variety of comedic styles, varying from potty humor to nerd jokes to irony, so Mothership is pretty much bound to tickle your funny bone one way or another.

The whole pregnancy angle is handled quite well, I think. Though it's obviously a main theme and they do not gloss over it, there isn't so much focus on pregnancy that I couldn't handle it. I mean, there's discussion of birthing and the consideration of the baby bump, but the humor and Elvie's wandering mind keeps things from getting to bogged down in baby drama. Also, just because the girls are pregnant doesn't mean they're completely useless, which was nice.

The reason I didn't like this book more than I did is the characters. They're funny and highly entertaining, sure, but I really don't like any of them. Elvie's probably the best of the lot, in that she's the only one to really have any depth of character, in that, despite the fact that she talks and acts like an airhead most of the time, she's really quite bright. Ducky and Ramona were my favorites, but they, like everyone else, really don't ever emerge from stereotype status. Britta was the worst by far, always remaining the classic mean girl airhead, and never showing the slightest glimmer of uniqueness. Cole, too, is completely unlikable to me, but he's not treated as such by the author, which is frustrating. This doesn't detract from the entertainment of the novel, but kept me from loving it.

The ending sets up the next book nicely, but I do think it was a bit ridiculous, even within the context of this universe. While I cannot explain in detail because of spoilers, I think one of the twists at the end, regarding Elvie's baby, does not make any sense plotwise. There is absolutely no reason for things to have gone down the way they did, except to make things happier.

If you're looking for a book to make you laugh, a nice break from dark contemporaries and dystopian drama, then Mothership is a perfect choice. I will definitely be reading the next book in the series, because you can always use more laughter in your life.

Sophie says

This is one of the most bonkers and OTT books I have ever read - and I really enjoyed it! It flings itself wildly from sassy Mean Girls-esque comedy to space battles to horrible deaths, but I think the authors pulled it off well. It would be great to see this as a movie, but I'm not sure if anyone would touch the subject matter... Looking forward to reading the rest of the trilogy.

Katie says

I can already tell that *Mothership* is going to be one of those seriously underrated books. Before getting a copy for review I had heard nothing about it and honestly I probably wouldn't have purchased a copy at the bookstore just based on the summary and cover. Boy am I glad I gave this one a chance though. *Mothership* is a laugh-out-loud look at teen pregnancy in space. With aliens. Seriously, where could you go wrong?

Elvie is one very unhappy pregnant teenager. When her dad found out she was pregnant he immediately enrolled her in the Hanover School for Expecting Teen Mothers. It seemed like a good plan and things were going okay at the school until the ship was hijacked by some dudes carrying ray guns. One of which just happened to be the father of Elvie's baby. Yeah, that's when things got really crazy. The dudes with ray guns have quite a few things to share with the mommies-to-be at the school and oh yeah they have to get off the ship before it crash lands to Earth. No problem, right? Wrong!

Elvie was a total laugh. She is one of the craziest heroines you will ever read about. I mean, she's a crazy pregnant teenager trapped on a ship in space with the baby daddy who ditched her, some aliens, and her worst enemy. However she never once lets that bring her down. Instead she cracks jokes about everyone and everything. She has an amazing sense of humor and that's only one of the things I loved about her. She is also really brave (sometimes stupidly so), not afraid to speak her mind, a really good friend, and a good mommy-to-be to the Goober (as she calls the baby.)

The rest of the cast was just as awesome. Britta was the perfect arch-nemesis. Cole was the lovable but totally stupid baby daddy. Ducky was the completely awesome best friend. Ramona was the cynical but lovable pregnant friend. Natty was the completely clueless but hysterical other pregnant friend. Really, the cast was a perfect mix of personalities and I couldn't help but love them all. Especially Cole. He was such a cute idiot. Even Elvie's dad was a pretty cool guy.

The plot was edge-of-your-seat suspenseful! It doesn't take long for things to really take off (get it?) and it's a pretty non-stop action-packed book. There are explosions, tons of life-or-death situations, and even a few births. Throw in some flashbacks to before Elvie got pregnant and you've got pretty much the perfect blend of action, romance, friendship, and suspense. It's definitely a one-sitting kind of read.

Overall, *Mothership* is going right to the top of my recommendation list. Full of lovable characters, non-stop action, laugh-out-loud hilarity, and swoon-worthy romance, it's everything a reader could want in a book. Pick this one up now!

Liviania says

I wanted to read **MOTHERSHIP** because all the reviews said it was absolutely hilarious and the title is a pun. I can never resist a good pun. Plus I thought the bright, retro cover was super fun. (It's even cooler in person. The computer screen doesn't show how much the pink pops against the purple.)

The reviewers were right: **MOTHERSHIP** is hilarious. Sixteen-year-old Elvie Nara's snarky, clever voice carries the novel. She's three months away from her due date when commandos invade the Hanover School for Expecting Teen Mothers (which is IN SPACE!) and tell the girls that their teachers are aliens. The chapters alternate between explaining how she got pregnant and the survivors' journey to get off the ship. (This journey is noticeably unimpeded by the pregnant girls needing to pee, having difficulty maneuvering, or any other issue you might expect to arise due to their physical condition.)

But I couldn't quite gel myself to **MOTHERSHIP**'s breezy tone. The trouble started when I realized Britta, another girl at the school, was pregnant by the same guy as Elvie. Naturally the girls hate each other more than Cheater McCan't-Keep-It-In-His-Pants. Lots of reviewers said sweet-but-dumb Cole grew on them as they read. But he didn't grow on me, particularly not as I realized exactly how bad of a position "sweet" Cole put Elvie in.

Then there's the fact that the entire book is about young, pregnant women in danger and many of them die in horrible ways. I love black comedy, but I like my black comedy black. I don't like dead pregnant teenagers in my snarky one-liner comedy. Then there's the horrid awfulness that comes as more of the aliens' plans are revealed. It's invasive and gross and I can't believe none of the girls choose to terminate their pregnancies. **MOTHERSHIP** has a novel's worth of consent issues that are addressed for approximately three pages.

SPOILERS SPOILERS SPOILERS SPOILERS

Plus, why are all of them teenagers? What, the aliens can't impregnate grown women? It's particularly disturbing since the aliens are older than they look. Cole's only nineteen, but what if the other baby daddies are older?

SPOILERS SPOILERS SPOILERS SPOILERS

I absolutely loved Elvie and thought her voice was spot-on. But she, her father, and best friend Duckie deserve a better plot than **MOTHERSHIP** offers them. Martin Leicht and Isla Neal have talent and humor, but the bright spots of **MOTHERSHIP** are offset by all the times I thought I was going to be sick.

Emily says

When I was pregnant, I was admitted to the hospital with what I thought were early labor pains. Turns out, I had a kidney stone. Regardless of that, when they admitted me I was given a nice and ugly wristband that declared me a "fall risk." Why? Because a clumsy pregnant woman is not a safe place for a baby who's trying to grow.

And even though I fell once during my pregnancy, it was once. Not enough to harm my baby. The amount of falls that these girls, particularly our main gal, take makes me question the safety of their babes.

So unless these alien babies are super durable inside the womb, there's no way these teen moms can fall as much as they did without incurring some damage. I can force my imagination to reach pretty far, but some of this book is still grounded in realism and that's a fact I can't ignore.

BUT, I know I'm being nitpicky. And all that aside, this book was very delightful and fun to read. Loved the characters, the whole plot; a creative idea!

Nasty Lady MJ says

To see full review click here: <http://yalbookbriefs.blogspot.com/201...>

Disclosure: I used to be a huge fan of Ancient Aliens (i.e. before I went to law school and had to allocate my TV time appropriately). The show was ridiculous on so many levels it was hilarious. Plus, some of the folklore they talked about was sort of cool. So I'm sort of into reading anything about aliens and boy does *Mothership* have them.

I really, really liked this book. And admittedly it had some faults, but it brightened up what otherwise would've been a very dull week. I think the thing that made me smile about the book the most is it's originality. As previously mentioned I've always had a thing for aliens. Besides watching *Ancient Aliens*, I was very much into sci-fi when I was a kid. The thing is, usually sci fi takes on such a dark tone. I mean, haven't you seen *Independence Day*? Spoiler alert: the aliens try to kill all man kind. And while there were some dark parts to this book, there were other parts that just made you want to smile like Elvie. She was a hilarious and snarky main character. I really liked the fact that she was such an action oriented character and for that matter she knew how to fix things. While I might be your stereotypical girl who can't fix a car or tell you what sort of screwdriver to use, Elvie is brilliant when it comes to this sort of thing. And I really like the fact that she breaks these stereotypes.

For that matter, I liked the other characters in the book as well. Nobody was perfect. Even the love interest- who FYI is dumb as a box of rocks. Usually I hate dumb characters, but there was something charming about Cole. Though I personally liked Elvie's best friend Ducky more. Yes, she has a friend named Ducky. And he's just as awesome if not more than his namesake.

Mothership was also a quick read. The writing was clean and things happened throughout the book to keep the reader engaged. I never got bored with this book and that's a good thing. Besides the various maladies that happened on the spaceship, the tone of the book makes it engaging. Leicht and Neal don't take things seriously and that seems to help the book be a success. Honestly, if this book had more of a dramatic tone I wouldn't have liked it as much.

Best Feature: Uniqueness: Lately I've been reading a lot of run of the mill YA books. May it be chick lit, dystopian fare, or a paranormal romance. *Mothership* is unique because it doesn't fit any of these genres and it doesn't take itself seriously. Plus, I really like the fact that this is a futuristic book but the future is not that different from the present. Okay, so there have been some advancements in technology but it's not like the Earth has transformed overnight like it would've in a lot of other YA futuristic books.

Worst Feature: Science. Okay, as much as I loved this book the logical part of my brain was occasionally screaming at it for some scientific impossibilities. Case in point, running out of oxygen in space. First of all, most people can hold their breath for less than a minute. The whole holding your breath scene lasted about

five and there were only two casualties that resulted. Plus, space's temperature is so cold that it would probably kill you within seconds.

Appropriateness: This book deals with teen pregnancy, so if that's not a subject matter you like to read about then I would advise you not to read it. There is some cursing in this book, a very brief sex scene. But nothing extremely graphic.

Jenny Q says

Did you read the back cover? Sounds kind of crazy, right? Well, it is!

What a treat! Wildly imaginative and inventive, with a smart, no-nonsense heroine with a wise-ass sense of humor. I grinned and chuckled through the whole thing. The story is super original and Elvie's voice is fresh and real. I was hooked from page one and blew through this in a day. This story takes a few teen cliches and dumps them on their ears. (And a few alien cliches, too!) The plot is tight and full of twists, and to top it all off is an "oh, snap!" ending I did not see coming, and that has me salivating for the sequel.

I'm trying to avoid spoilers here, so I'm keeping it short and sweet. I pretty much loved it and I'm recommending it to all of my YA-reading friends. Worried about the teen pregnancy thing? Don't let it throw you off. This is a humorous alien adventure story, but it also has a healthy dose of "See? This is what happens when you have unprotected premarital sex." And there are some more serious moments as Elvie contemplates her future and that of her child. Elvie and Cole make a great team of brains and brawn, but I am bumping down my rating a notch because I would have liked to see their backstory explored a bit more to make their feelings for one another more plausible. But can you really call it a complaint when your only issue is that you wanted more? If you're looking for something smart and sassy and totally new and different in YA, Mothership is it.

4.5 stars

anilee says

[the whole not-aging-alien-impregnating-teenage-girls-without-telling-them-any

Emily says

I was not expecting to love this book as wholly, as passionately, as scream-from-rooftops ecstatically, as I do. I went in thinking it would just be a cute, goofy Teen Mom in space kinda adventure. Yes, it is all up in the teen-mom-in-space premise for the first 15 pages or so, until THE SPACESHIP IS INVADED BY HUNKY ALIENS. And it doesn't end there. There are multiple species of hunky aliens, potential alien-baby-daddies, at odds with each other, disparate groups of girls banding together and tapping into save-our-ass resources they didn't realize they possessed. I don't want to say much more, a) because so much happens in just a 24 hour period, it would take way too long to explain all the things that lead up to the BEST MOMENTS EVER that if you read this book yourself I could talk about with you, and b) all those things that happen, plot twists? Totally worth reading, and I don't want to spoil anything for you. And did I mention

super hot aliens? Because this has them.

Erin L says

3.5 stars?

I enjoyed this book. As my husband said when he recommended it to me: "It isn't going to win any awards, but it'll make you laugh." And I needed some laughter and fun so I picked it up for a quick, light weekend read. It met those requirements.

The first few chapters I wondered what I'd gotten into, but it did pick up and I found myself wanting to know more. The authors created an interesting world.

Rashika (is tired) says

This book is exactly what the cover suggests it is. It's fluff. The question arises as to whether it's good or bad fluff and in my opinion, this book is fluff of the good variety. It didn't always feel that way though. The first 100 pages or so were incredibly painful. I kept questioning the sanity of our main character and my own sanity too for continuing to read a book I wasn't enjoying. The reason I read on, even though I wasn't having a swell time, was because the book was funny. I hoped that the book would get better as I went along and I was right, it did. It got insanely better and I started actually enjoying the book instead of just laughing at the funny parts.

Elvie is our main character and happens to be knocked up. When I first found out about this series, I was intrigued by how the book would deal with teen pregnancy in a sci-fic setting. Worry not though, this book is not serious. It's pretty goshdarn funny and even if it makes you question whether the author is dealing with an important issue like this with the sensitivity it deserves. Sometimes, you don't want a deep and moving book! Sometimes you really just want some fluff.

Going back to Elvie though. Elvie is snarky and obviously has mommy issues. This leads to her being detached from her pregnancy and the idea that she is actually having a kid. She calls her fetus goober from pete's sake. But Elvie is smart, and while she sometimes annoyed me with her slut shaming and her general outlook on some of her other peers, she still managed to be likeable because in spite of everything that had happened to her, she didn't spend a lot of time moping around. She took action!

Cole on the other hand was an entirely questionable love interest. I despised him for the first 100 pages and questioned Elvie's sanity for being so head over heels for a doofus for whom she was the 'other' girl and who bailed the moment he found out about the baby. But we get explanations for his jerk behavior and while they aren't a 100% satisfying, they brought a much needed explanation as to how someone so smart as Elvie could love a dumbdumb like Cole.

I guess the one thing Cole has going for him is that even though he may not be the brightest bulb, he is loyal and is definitely smarter than he is given credit for. Especially given the way his superiors discredited him. There were moments in their relationship that were adorable and I think what makes their relationship work is that Elvie isn't with him for his brains, she knows he isn't super smart, she's with him because he is sweet

and caring (if dense at times).

This book is very fast paced and if I remember correctly, a lot of it takes place over the course of 24 hours. It's got a lot of action and could be surprisingly brutal at times (meaning not everyone is alive at the end ... including a character I had grown to love). I do like how the author paces the book though. It fits what the author is going and he does it just right so that the book never feels rushed. It feels exciting.

This is a fun fluffy book and while it takes a bit to get used to, it is worth it since it's such a fast-paced cutesy read with a great futuristic setting and a bit of space opera (if it can be classified as such).

Nicole Chase says

[forced alien impregnation, infertility (hide spoiler)]

Kavanand (Reading for Two) says

Sixteen-year-old Elvie made a big mistake. She slept with her big crush Cole and ended up pregnant. When she told Cole, he hightailed it out of town. Elvie's single father can't deal with the situation, and he sends her off to a school for unwed mothers on a cruiseliner spaceship that's orbiting Earth. Things aren't too bad in outer space, if Elvie can ignore her late pregnancy discomfort and the presence of her nemesis (and rival for Cole's affection) Britta. Then one day, armed commandos storm the ship, and to Elvie's great surprise, Cole is one of them. He claims that her teachers are all aliens and that she and the other girls are in danger. What's a pregnant teen to do?

Mothership is a hilarious, fast-paced, futuristic adventure. Most of the present-day action takes place over the course of one day, and there's never a dull moment. There are also a number of flashback chapters that explain how Elvie ended up in these circumstances. The best part of the flashbacks is the presence of Elvie's best friend Duckie, who is completely awesome.

Elvie is a great character. She's tough, smart, and very sarcastic. Some girls would be overwhelmed at the thought of being 8 months pregnant, dealing with their ex, having to help save their fellow students, and avoiding the barbs of their nemesis, but Elvie takes it all in stride. She knows she made a big mistake in getting pregnant, but she's determined to get on with her life, which includes big plans to join NASA and help with terraforming new planets. Unfortunately, Elvie being so cool only highlighted Cole's shortcomings. He's the sort of hot but dumb guy that a smart girl might crush on in high school, but would probably be bored by once she got to college. He's sweet, but he just doesn't seem cool or interesting enough for Elvie, and he's nowhere near as entertaining as Duckie.

Despite these shortcomings in the romantic lead, I really enjoyed Mothership. I'm looking forward to the sequel, especially because the authors throw in a very unexpected twist at the end of the book.

I received an ARC from Amazon Vine.

Lenore Appelhans says

This was such a nice surprise - a very funny sci-fi black comedy (I say black because there is a lot of death). Though Elvie's voice is sometimes a tad too snarky teen, I do have to admit she has some great one-liners. I love how smart and resourceful Elvie is no knocked-up damsel in distress here. I also love the clever plot and great twists. And what a well executed cliffhanger! Looking forward to the next book for sure.

Tabitha (Bows & Bullets Reviews) says

The review is also available on my blog, Bows & Bullets Reviews

I'll be totally honest, when I started this novel I didn't have a clue what it was about beyond the vague notion that it would involve aliens. I never read the synopsis. The thought process was simple, I just finished *Second Chance Summer* and while it was good, it was a bit of a downer and I wanted to read something uplifting and funny. I saw this little novel up on PulseIt and vaguely remember reading various reviews proclaiming it to be laugh out loud funny, so I thought I'd read it while I had the chance. I'm glad I did. The reviews were right, this book is one of the most original, funny stories I've read in a while.

Elvie Nara is in a fairly common situation, she's knocked up and the father disappeared right after hearing the news. She finally fesses up to her father (who I adore by the way) and she decides that the best thing for her is to enroll her in this new school for pregnant teens make on an abandon party cruiser that is orbiting the earth (which is possible because this book takes place in 2074). Perfect solution, right? WRONG. Everything goes rather smoothly for the first few months, or as smoothly as things can go for an expecting teen mother who's ex lover also happens to have father a kid with her archnemesis who is stuck in the same floating school and determined to make her life hell, until.....Cue the dramatic music: ALIENS ATTACK! From that point on, Elvie's world gets turned upside down, which she didn't think was possible at this point. I can't really go into detail with the plot after this point because there are too many potential spoilers, but suffice to say that you'll never see a lot of it coming and you'll be rolling on the floor laughing if you figure it out. Everything that can go wrong does and Elvie ends up face to face with Cole (aka the father of "Goober").

I cannot say enough good things about this book. All the character's were completely perfect. Ducky is an amazing best friend and they could have easily pushed that into love triangle land but thankfully they don't. Instead of trying to be all Jacob and "I love you and I'm better for you", Ducky never confesses his love and just supports Elvie in every endeavor, no matter how deranged. Cole was the perfect leading man. He's hot and dimwitted and completely sincere in his affection for Elvie, though it's not apparent in the beginning. Then there is Elvie, who though I was irritated with in the beginning, turns out to be a completely badass lovable character. She's been dealt a shitty hand (though by her own admission, it's for choices she made) and instead of whining and moping about what could have been and how things should be, she just rolls with the punches makes sarcastic jokes as she goes. Thanks to all her younger years being raised by her father, she is a mechanical genius and that skill comes in rather useful for what's in store for her. Speaking of her dad, I love him. He's doesn't have a huge role in this novel, but the small amount you see of him makes me wanna give the guy a big hug. He's got a plan for any (well almost any) worst case scenario and when Elvie confesses that she is knocked up, his response isn't anger, but just acceptance and then he proudly digs out his "teen pregnancy" contingency plan and starts dealing with the current dilemma.

The plot keeps you guessing until the end. Just when you think it's all over, something else happens. Just

when you think they are all doomed, Elvie pulls a new plan out of her ass and saves the day. It's a delightful read and anyone looking for a kickass novel that will have you snorting for hours, this is your book!

Quotes:

“Ducky seems intent on working on a strictly psychological level. Like sneaking into Britta’s house every morning to swap out her bra with a series of nearly identical brassieres with infinitesimally larger cup sizes, causing her to believe her boobs are shrinking.”

“If anyone can ever find a way to explain to me how carrying around a sack of flour with a diaper on it is supposed to prepare you for motherhood, I will personally bake that person a chocolate cake with my practice baby’s insides.”
