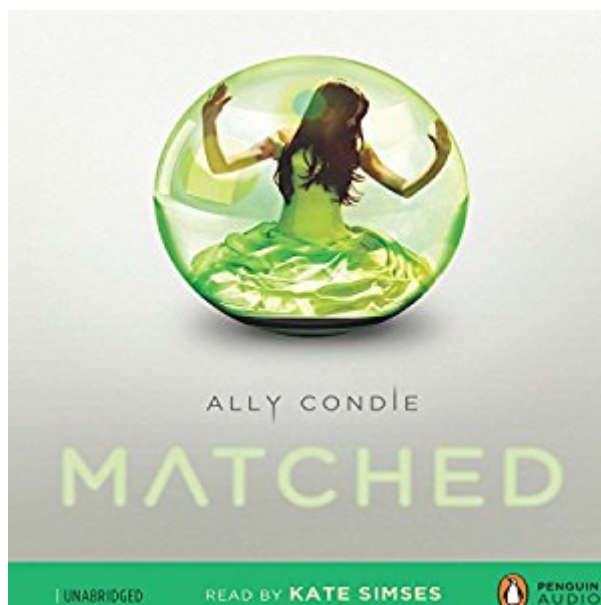


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Matched: Book 1



Synopsis

Cassia has always trusted the Society to make the right choices for her: what to read, what to watch, what to believe. So when Xander's face appears on-screen at her Matching ceremony, Cassia knows with complete certainty that he is her ideal mate... until she sees Ky Markham's face flash for an instant before the screen fades to black. The Society tells her it's a glitch, a rare malfunction, and that she should focus on the happy life she's destined to lead with Xander. But Cassia can't stop thinking about Ky, and as they slowly fall in love, Cassia begins to doubt the Society's infallibility and is faced with an impossible choice: between Xander and Ky, between the only life she's known and a path that no one else has dared to follow.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The world was developed nicely however led you to no emotional tie. I guess this was intended since the society is so cold and calculating. I get it had to be created this way but still... it seemed so flat. The pacing was slow. I didn't find myself really intrigued or connected until I was about 70% of the way through. The character development could have used a lot of work. Cassia seemed very flat and I didn't feel any sort of connection to her at all until almost the end of the story. Again, this may have been intentional because she was so molded and brainwashed by her society, however I would have liked to see more action, more outward fight as opposed to all internal fight or at the least, way more curiosity. Xander was a solid character and a bit interesting but that's as far as my feelings go on that one. Em is utterly forgettable. There wasn't really a love triangle... it was always

just ky. Ky was really the most interesting character although I didn't think so until the very end which means pacing was too slow. I think 50% through the book cassia and ky had only spoken a handful of words to each other. When she first told him she loved him, my response was why? She barely knows him. I Wonder if she only fell for the idea of rebellion that he encompassed because she was too weak and molded to feel true rebellion in her own gut. Again, too much internal going on. Nutshell: pacing was too slow for my taste. Characters were very flat. The concept was interesting but the world was flat. I get what the author tried to do. Internal story, internal struggle. It just all fell flat for me. I give it three stars because ally condie did have a poetic turn to her writing though at times it was overdone. It was written nicely. There were a few memorable quotes. I will actually read book 2 because now that the story has moved out of cassias province, maybe the pace will quicken and there will be more external struggle and action. And finally the girl is beginning to THINK of developing a backbone. Just wish it hadn't taken a whole book to get to that point.

This YA Dystopian romance was super good. I read it in 2 days, and when I had to put it down to get things done, I couldn't stop thinking about it. Cassia, Xander, and Ky are the main characters in this one. Cassia goes to her Matching Banquet where she will find out who the Society has chosen for her future mate. Xander, her best friend, shows up on her screen. But so does Ky, an Aberration who blends in and is quiet. The book takes her on a quest to determine whether she will allow the Society to make all her choices for her, or if she will choose for herself. The theme is great. Would you accept loss of agency in favor of the government making sure your life is peaceful and nothing bad happens? But you never get to make your own choices, or question the government's choices. It's crazy with lots of danger, intrigue, horrible secrets, and love. Super good book. I'm looking forward to reading the next one in this series.

"It strikes me that perhaps this is part of what we are fighting to choose. Which pain we feel." This is a difficult balance, telling the truth: how much to share, how much to keep, which truths will wound but not ruin, which will cut too deep to heal." And when I see Ky again, which I know will happen, I will whisper the words I have written in his ear, against his lips. And they will change from ash and nothing into flesh and blood." Yes, a love story, one that slowly arises in a society where everything from what you eat to who you are matched with for life and when you die are chosen for you, for your own good. Cassie is excited for her matching ceremony, dressed in her lovely borrowed gown. She can't wait to see who her match will be. And when she sees his face at first she is happy, but

another face comes up briefly to confuse her. And the rest of the story is about the cruelty of not having a choice, of Cassia realising she not only wants choices but must have them. I can't wait to read the next one.

I picked this up from my library because it looked interesting. It starts a bit slow, but it gradually picks up and started to hold my interest. Although there are still random parts that are duller than others, I got through them quickly enough. Out of all of the characters, I felt the most connection with Ky. I really wish there was more on his background. He seemed to be the most... human. Likely because he was raised outside of the system. For a lot of the book, I found myself frustrated over the system. It connects you to your match based on what is most beneficial to the community, kills old people after a certain age, and the list goes on. Typical things you'll find in a Dystopian. I was most curious to see what was going to happen with the situation between Ky and Xander. Cassia, the main character, was the storyteller for this book, and I felt she was reacting to things in a way that made sense with the world she has grown up in. Fans of YA Dystopian would likely enjoy this. I am interested in continuing the series, although I have heard the following books aren't as good.

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