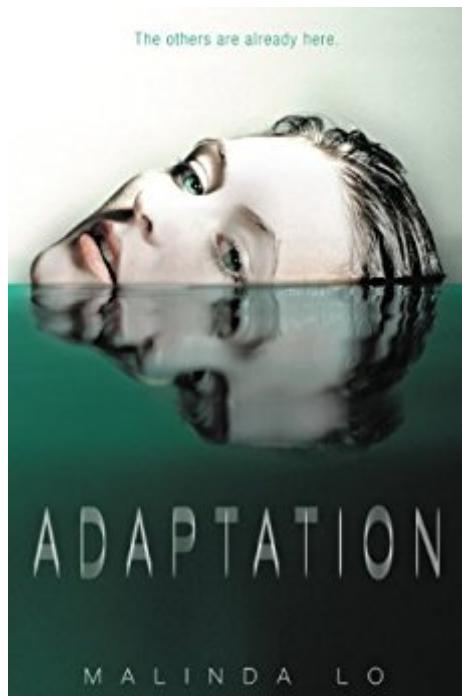


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# Adaptation



## **Synopsis**

Reese can't remember anything from the time between the accident and the day she woke up almost a month later. She only knows one thing: She's different now. Across North America, flocks of birds hurl themselves into airplanes, causing at least a dozen to crash. Thousands of people die. Fearing terrorism, the United States government grounds all flights, and millions of travelers are stranded. Reese and her debate team partner and longtime crush David are in Arizona when it happens. Everyone knows the world will never be the same. On their drive home to San Francisco, along a stretch of empty highway at night in the middle of Nevada, a bird flies into their headlights. The car flips over. When they wake up in a military hospital, the doctor won't tell them what happened, where they are--or how they've been miraculously healed. Things become even stranger when Reese returns home. San Francisco feels like a different place with police enforcing curfew, hazmat teams collecting dead birds, and a strange presence that seems to be following her. When Reese unexpectedly collides with the beautiful Amber Gray, her search for the truth is forced in an entirely new direction--and threatens to expose a vast global conspiracy that the government has worked for decades to keep secret. *Adaptation* is a bold contemporary science-fiction thriller from the acclaimed author of *Ash*.

## **Book Information**

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## Customer Reviews

Fun story! Definitely a great teenage read packed with adventure and distinct characters. I enjoyed this story even though I'm no longer a teen because the relationship dynamics are so relatable, if you're gay, straight, or bi. I would give it an extra star if you think you might be bisexual and want something not overly romantic to read.

Reese Holloway and David Li are on their way home from a debate competition when things start to go really wrong. Like, they wake up in a military hospital a month later wrong. When they wake up, they aren't the same as they were. For one thing, they can read minds. I never quite got into Malinda Lo's first two books, even though I'd been especially excited by *ASH*, since I love fairytale retellings. I found her style a bit stiff and cold. They were good enough, but nothing I was over the moon about. *ADAPTATION*, on the other hand, sucked me in and forced me to go to the library and borrow a copy of *INHERITANCE* so that I could read it immediately. *ADAPTATION* is a science fiction novel with some thriller and romance elements. Like many other science fiction novels, it is preoccupied with what makes us human. Unlike many science fiction novels, Reese is also questioning her identity because she falls for a girl. (Although Reese dates both David and Amber in the book, there is no cheating. One relationship clearly ends before another begins.) It's a lovely mishmash between the philosophy of reality and of the imagination. But it's not ponderous - there's lots of crazy, creepy stuff happening, including stalking by men in black. A highlight for me, in both books, were Reese and David's family and friends. Something strange has happened to them, but they have a loving, fierce support group backing them up. Reese's mom might be one of my favorite parents in YA fiction. Lo does a great job of showing that competent adults don't have to ruin the plot of a teen-oriented book. If you're into science fiction, I highly recommend *ADAPTATION* and *INHERITANCE*. I would say more about specific sci-fi elements that might entice you, but I'm afraid to give anything away. Lo doesn't employ the most shocking twists, but it's still a fun journey. (Side note: I thoroughly enjoyed how the love triangle resolved in *INHERITANCE*.)

What a great read! Loved seeing a YA novel explore sexuality other than hetero in the main character AND others, in a way that is believable AND relevant to the story being told. Love the conspiracy theories, premise and characters and look forward to seeing where this series goes!

I'm not usually a big sci fi fan but this twisty, unputdownable duology is definitely an exception. Major props for including a bisexual love triangle and thoughtful reflections about sexuality and identity. Highly, highly recommended.

The book starts out as a scary post 9/11 nightmare: airplanes crashing left and right, military envoys secretly taking control of various cities, and the general population looting and killing one another in order to stock up on canned goods and gasoline. The two main characters are trying to escape the madness and end up wrecking their rented car in the desert. From there, the book takes a turn and X-Files fans will be sucked right in: a mysterious base in the desert, a mysterious medical facility that fixes both children up a little better than before they crashed and a scary-secret non-disclosure agreement. If these kind of conspiracies, this is a great book for you.

I was curious how different this book would be as Malinda Lo's first departure from fantasy thus far, but I possibly enjoyed it the most out of her three books. The premise is very psychological thriller meets conspiracy action chase, and I read the entire thing in one sitting because I was dying to unravel all the secrets that kept peeking their noses out. In terms of writing style, Lo captures perfectly that teenage uncertainty and beneath-the-surface angst, and she writes a crush like nobody's business. There IS a love triangle, and I'd have to say it's isosceles for now. ;) It was definitely a fun read and I can't wait for the sequel!

This book felt rushed and seemed to trivialize important rite of passage moments. It felt like it was trying to be a sci-fi novel and a coming of age story and both fell flat.

I love this sci-fi YA genre, but this book especially captured my attention right from the start and didn't let go. The only time I really stopped reading was because I couldn't keep my eyes open anymore, and that was at 1am last night. Malinda Lo's writing style is amazing and fluid. She definitely gained another fan. Now onto the book *Ash*, which I hate to admit that I've had for months and neglected... but there you have it. However, now it gets its chance!

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