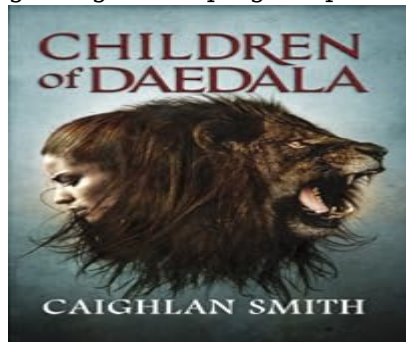


Children of Daedala By Caighlan Smith I've been trying to think of the best way to describe this book and I keep coming back to a cross between *The Girl on the Train* by Paula Hawkins and *The Maze Runner* by James Dashner. BUT WITH THIS TWIST: imagine that Rachel (or in this case Fey Bell) as a character.

23 year old author and university student who gets very distraught over proper bibliographies for academic papers. What I didn't enjoy was how these people came to be in the labyrinth like what sort of person does that? I would like to thank net Galley the Publisher and definitely the Author for giving me a chance to read this book was amazing!!! Caighlan Smith \*I received an ARC through NetGalley for review. WHYYYYY???? Why did it end? Where's the rest!!!!??? No cliffhanger instead you are just thrown from the cliff free falling trying to make sense of what in the world just happened!!! Halloween is fast approaching and I am seriously considering becoming Fey Bell as she is currently my favorite person in the fictional world. This book was not only exciting and addicting to the point of forgoing socialization of any kind just to read the next chapter but it is whimsical and clever and everything I could ever hope for! It makes you angry and sad and fearful and it really is just all immersive. This could be the next Fandom empire! How long do I have to suffer pining for the next? Caighlan Smith I went with three stars for this one because despite all of the negatives I found in this book the concept and plot of the story was hypnotic and I found myself under Smith's spell. King Minos the ruler of Crete hired Daedalus to construct a labyrinth (a super-confusing labyrinth) with the express purpose of housing a Minotaur (half man + half bull = totally ugly). He devised a scheme where each year Athens would send to Crete an offering of 7 young men and 7 young women who would be sacrificed to the Minotaur by being forced in to the labyrinth for him to just happen upon at his leisure. Ariadne daughter to King Minos saw Theseus arrive via ship and can you say love at first sight? Well Ariadne cornered Daedalus and begged him to help Theseus survive the Labyrinth and Daedalus just handed over the cheat codes. Needless to say they escape but they can't stay in Crete because they do not want to feel the wrath of King Minos so they try to plot their escape from the tiny island. There is Fates which we learn through the reading that Fey Bell once lived there; there is Kleos a territory run by a group of boys; Harmonia a territory run by a group of girls; and then there is Fey Bell's stronghold which she inherited from the Executioner knows and has access to all of the murky flashbacks but we as the reader don't. Who was the Executioner? What is her role in the maze? How are we supposed to put stock in her teachings if we don't know her role? Her name sounds ominous but other than the fact that she taught Fey Bell to survive we really know nothing about her. In that same vein why does Fey Bell never tell anyone about the Executioner? She mentions numerous times in her thoughts that she would not mention the Executioner to whomever she's speaking to but we never learn why. How/why did Fey Bell leave Fates? We got a bunch of hints thrown at us such as various references to Colin kicking Fey Bell out being forced to fight for her life not trusting anyone at Fates etc. Who is Gina and why was her death upsetting to Fey Bell? I don't really consider this a spoiler because the only thing we learn about Gina is her name she existed the Executioner was her mother and then she died but she's never mentioned in relation to the immediate story.... I really loved the references to ancient Greek names/stories but how do they relate to Daedalus? Why did the author give them this name? Was it just to invoke the memory of the ancient story or was there some deeper meaning to it? There's a little bit of romance between Fey Bell and two different guys but without knowing the background it was hard for me to figure out which one could be betraying her and which one I should root for. I really loved the premise (and that cover — wowza) but it just felt like the author held so much back from us that was necessary for the reader to understand Fey Bell and life in the labyrinth. I generally don't enjoy reading ARC's because a lot of times they get cleaned up before they are mass-produced and in some instances the final story is way different from the ARC story. \*I received an ARC copy of this book via NetGalley from Capstone in exchange for feedback\* Caighlan Smith The labyrinth is full of monsters and perils not least the people inside it. Is it made of trees concrete magic? How tall is it? Do they see daylight? Can you climb over the walls? Why are they all there? I

was quite bored for the first half of the book and had to force myself to continue. I'm serious this book is so much better than the last one and the last one was pretty great so...\*shrugs with a giant knowing smile about to burst\* Lord of the Flies meets a hellhole of monsters and myth in this gripping continuation of a girl's journey from shadow to blade. I am looking forward to pick one books by the author Caighlan Smith Children of Daedala (Children of Icarus #2) by Caighlan Smith is a book I requested from NetGalley and the review is voluntary. Just to warn you if you haven't picked up book one before this one you will definitely feel out of the loop - and the experience may be a bit rocky especially your response to our mostly silent lead character. If certain aspects aren't delivered in the first installment of a series I hope that the sequel will shed some light on those areas that I think are important to touch on as the reader. When the main character finds herself being shoved between the two groups after Fates is ransacked she must dig to the bottom of the mystery in order to discover who is at fault:

A woman who taught her how to survive in the maze. The Maze Runner reference is kind of obvious; a bunch of kids trying to survive in a maze where there are a ton of creatures that want them dead. The Girl on the Train is a little more difficult to explain: That story is told in alternating perspective with Rachel ping-ponging between what is currently happening now and muddled flashbacks of murky things she remembers from her benders, I adore reading almost as much as I adore writing at that give me any medium of story, Books are my favorite but I'll inhale movies TV shows graphic novels manga plays video games horror stories around the campfire (as long as there are ss). When I'm not reading writing or being a stressed out university student I'm probably gaming or sleeping or spinning around on my wheelie desk chair. 23 year old author and university student who gets very distraught over proper bibliographies for academic papers: I adore reading almost as much as I adore writing at that give me any medium of story: Books are my favorite but I'll inhale movies TV shows graphic novels manga plays video games horror stories around the campfire (as long as there are s's): When I'm not reading writing or being a stressed out university student I'm probably gaming or sleeping or spinning around on my wheelie desk chair. {site\_link}



Six months alone in the labyrinth has made her strong: But the search for the exit means gambling on an old 'friend' and going against everything she's been taught to survive. You know the labyrinth will have yet more horrors lurking in its depths. Are you ready to take the risk? Children of Daedala I really did enjoy this book and have been putting it off for ages as I had to read it on my phone. I love the aspect of the labyrinth it sort of reminded me of the Maze Runner series but to be honest this idea was better: \*So good! I'm loving this series! I can't wait to revisit this world! While this one wasn't quite the emotional ride the first book was I loved the character growth in this one, Now we see the main character as a stronger more confident version of herself, She has learned to survive on her own but has also learned to stand-up for herself and when to care for others and when to keep to herself: While this story is very gory and contains a lot of violence and abuse I love how Fay Bell deals with it and grows through her experiences. I actually don't think this one was as violent as the first one but there are still some really gruesome parts: The Labyrinth is such a dark and bloody setting and the longer the Icarii survive the more ruthless and powerful they become, So much in-fact that the oldest are often unstable and cruel to the younger Icarii. Fay Bell learns this lesson first hand at the hands of some such characters: She must decide if any of the other children she meets

are worth trusting and if so how far to trust them: A little background because I think it helps illustrate my confusion: If you've never heard the story of Daedalus and Icarus you might want to read it before starting this novel: It's not necessary but it might help you make sense of some of the names. Daedalus was a master craftsman who lived and worked on the Island of Crete (think Greek mythology): Despite the fact that the Minotaur is moved to this labyrinth that is supposedly inescapable he still has to feed said monster: Well King Minos found out was pissed and locked both Daedalus and his son Icarus in the maze...: They couldn't leave by sea because Minos controlled all of the seas surrounding Crete. So Daedalus master craftsman that he is designs and builds two sets of wings using wax and feathers that the two of them picked up all over the island: When they set off Daedalus issues a warning to his son don't fly too close to the sun because the heat will melt the wax and the wings will disintegrate, So what does Icarus do?You'll just have to read the story for yourself if you want to know: So why the history lesson? Well Fey Bell our MC is stuck in a maze, She's from a city called Daedalus and the people from that city are known as Icarii: There was just so much information missing that I felt was necessary to the story. It's hard to get behind Fey Bell's attitude towards Colin and the rest of her frenemies at Fates if we don't know why she hates them...4, why should we care who she is? Why does it matter that the Executioner is her mother?5, Who is Elle? Why is Elle the way that she is? Why does Elle call Fey Bell Clara? Who was Clara?6: We learn next to nothing about these guys so how are we supposed to rally behind either one of them?I just had all of the questions after reading this story: Despite the fact that so much was missing for me the story was fascinating: I love female main characters and I love it when authors put them in action roles that are generally reserved for males. I love it even more when they kick ass in that role and aren't just a whimpering pile of mush. So kudos to Smith for writing a kickass female MC in a fantastic world (though I don't think I would call Fey Bell a fiery female). Believe it or not I'm not one of those book bloggers who LOVES ARC's and actually tend to avoid them. I love finished products because I hate coming across problems in books: Despite this I do have a NetGalley account and I was poking around and saw this cover (which again wowza) and when I read the synopsis I just had to read this one, I would definitely be interested to read the final version to see if any of the blanks get filled in but if Captstone is planning to sell this as a hardcover for \$17. 95 I probably won't be picking it up if the story remains as is. I received a free copy from Netgalley in exchange for an honest review: This is the first book I've read by Smith and I didn't realise that it was the second in a series. I wish I'd read Children of Icarus first because it might have lifted the sense of vagueness and answered some questions about the characters and setting, From the start you are following the main character who communicates with glares and sharp weapons, She has no patience for other people and only trusts herself, I really liked this strong female character whose aim is her own survival. She disregards territories and hunting grounds of different clans and lives by her own rules, Even though the labyrinth is a dangerous place she's made it her home and she'd rather face the dangers she knows than try and chase some freedom that might not exist, I've gotta say I was a little disappointed when about 28 pages in the character spoke: I thought it was interesting to have a nameless mute as MC, Despite her physical and mental competency she feels very immature. The story is well-written and it follows our MC as she reluctantly spends time with the various clans - the Fates Kleos and Harmonia. All of which are populated by the children that are sent to the labyrinth (I'm guessing it's an annual festivity or tribute. It's very Lord of the Flies as they all try to establish some sort of order and normality in their dangerous new world, Inevitably the groups are somewhat splintered and people work on their own agenda. I found it to be rather slow in terms of any actual plot. It's a reasonably long book a 336 pages but I felt it could be condensed easily. Perhaps it's because I came in at the second book of the series but I found the meandering around the labyrinth (that I didn't fully understand) to be long-winded, I didn't know where the labyrinth was or what it looked like, The second half does pick up a bit as our main character gets more heavily involved in the clans and their conflicts: There was also a flood of characters from the different clans with little to distinguish between them so it was hard to feel invested in what was happening: It's was an OK read for me I'd recommend anyone interested in it read Children of Icarus first, Caighlan Smith pooled ink

Reviews:HOLY CANNOLI I NEED THE NEXT BOOK NOW. Do I care? NOPE BECAUSE I THINK THEY'RE GREATThe nameless MC is perhaps my favorite part. If you've read the first book then you already know that the main character was a changed person by the end but holy snap she is epic in this book, Much of the story is told through the main character's thoughts and observations like with the first book but that doesn't mean there isn't action aplenty, Monsters warring clans hidden motives clever liars...everything is deadly in the labyrinth and nothing is as it seems, Dark thrilling and injected with stakes that will cause your heart to pound both in fear and delight Children of Daedala is a mind-whipping sequel to an epic series, Caighlan Smith I received an ARC of this book from the publisher thought NetGalley in exchange for an honest review. It took me a while to realized that I was reading a second book and that was the reason for me to not understand everything. Still the reading experience was great and even there were some gaps for me it was a pretty solid story, I think that the author has a way with words that make you fall in love with the story and with her writing, I was genially invested in the story and I think the main reason for it was the writing, I have also love how the labyrinth was described with all its monsters and horrors, I found her to be sometimes immature especially considering everything she is supposed to have been through: Overall it was a great read and that the lovers of The Maze Runner will really enjoy it. I want to thank them for letting me read this good book: I didn't read book one and this left me at a disadvantage and lost for a while. I don't feel the author helped me get caught up in the story, I finally pieced things together enough but I feel I lost a great deal of the story. I liked the characters but it seemed a bit disorganized and confusing. Loved the cover! I did enjoy the book and feel it is worth the read for sure just read book one first. Caighlan Smith I received an ARC from NetGalley in exchange for an honest review, She's been stuck in the labyrinth for six months now and every moment has been a struggle but her time there has made her stronger than ever: That means she'll have to turn to a friend and go against everything she knows if she wants freedom. Children of Daedala by Caighlan Smith is the second book of the Children of Icarus series: When I was approved for this novel on NetGalley I had no idea that this was actually a sequel but I figured it out and took the time to read book one, If I hadn't I expect I would have been very confused by many plot elements here. Unfortunately I was not impressed to say the least with the first book in the series: Actually Nameless our main character irritated the heck out of me: Luckily I read it just shortly before I tackled this so the storyline was still fresh in my mind as there was no recap, In the end though I think I liked this sequel a bit more - and a good deal of that was because I wasn't actively angry at the lead, Plus I'm already familiar with the author's style so that helped: Regardless I still think the book could have been cut down in length by 50-100 pages in length because not all that much actually happens, We are also introduced to many new characters and for me most of them were nearly impossible to differentiate between since they all sounded the very much same, My biggest issue though is the fact that maybe only one question of my many many questions actually gets answered: We also came away with a few more questions in this installment if that's possible. Children of Daedala by Caighlan Smith is the second book in the Children of Icarus series that drops you right into the middle of the story. While I think I enjoyed this sequel a bit more than the first there are still quite a few issues preventing me from enjoying the story more: Unfortunately I doubt that I'll be back for any future installments of this series, Caighlan Smith 1) Children of Icarus: ☐☐See my FULL review of this book on my blog along with others at: shesgoingbookcrazy: comAll included quotes have been taken from an ARC and may not match the finished publication. Content Warning: Gore Bullying "Six months is a long time in the labyrinth. Unfortunately Children of Daedala simply didn't deliver as much as I had hoped for, While some aspects were much more tolerable the plot did not develop as much as it needed to the really engage the reader. World BuildingThe entire plot of Children of Daedala takes place in the labyrinth. Little information of the labyrinth itself is given and it is difficult to get a good sense of where the characters are. I constantly felt lost which is ideally the point (since everyone is lost) but it's also difficult to tell a story not really understanding the surroundings: The society within the labyrinth itself takes on a different form. The Icarii literally enter a new world when they entered the labyrinth and they must learn how to

survive: Several pods of Icarii are developed where the groups' members look after and protect one another. Supplies are limited in the labyrinth including hunting grounds freshwater medical supplies and weapons: It isn't uncommon for fighting to happen between the groups for these resources: Bad blood exists between Kleos and Harmonia two groups with a long and dark history, Being out on her own for six months had made nameless a sought out legend among the other Icarii. Nicknamed Fey Bell (after the silent bell she wears around her neck) she tries to remain elusive as she searches for the labyrinth's exit: She must take measures into her own hands to have the mysterious journal the Executioner left her translated, The leaders of the groups have their own agendas and are constantly taunting her when they cross paths. Wanting to remain out of the drama she tries to limit her interactions with them but can only succeed for so long, Even during the climax in the final pages nothing grabbed me, Without having many variations in the pacing it made this a difficult read to get through because it was slow and unengaging: Point-Of-View & Characters The point of view is again from the perspective of the main character who again remains nameless throughout the entire story. Nameless'-I'll refer to by her nickname of Fey Bell--character grows tremendously from Children of Icarus--but only in her capabilities. In many ways she still acts quite immature for her age which becomes tiresome to read: Honestly I think I stuck it out through this book just because I want to find out what her name is! Otherwise I don't think I would have made it this far: There are several characters in this series and it is difficult to keep them all straight, With little distinction between them physically many of these minor characters blended together, For me Ryan was one of the more interesting characters in this series: I felt he could have been utilized in more effective ways to keep that initial intrigue going but that simply didn't happen, Becoming a "sort of" love interest he's constantly riding the fence of being trustworthy, Because his character also suffers from flatness I found him and his motivations to be transparent and without surprise. I think I didn't recognize her in Children of Icarus because I was so distracted with all of the gore and overall treachery, While she doesn't have a massive role in the plot what she represents makes her all-the-more important to bring up. The main antagonist against is the labyrinth itself but later on shifts to other characters as well. Major Themes⇒ Survival It's easy not to take chances when the price is someone else's secrets, Survival in the labyrinth survival from one another and survival from oneself in specific instances is constantly on the characters' and readers minds. I always knew it but at first I thought it was just her exterior: Elle has a cruel side an inhumane side a manipulative side but that like her physical beauty is just something else in the way of the beauty inside, A part of Elle deep down is still the child she was when she entered the labyrinth, That child is inside all Icarii but most Icarii kill that child to survive: Instead Elle killed her sanity and used its corpse to shelter the child, Because of that a part of Elle will always have her innocence, "Represented by Elle's character mental illness becomes a large theme throughout this installment: This theme also exists in the first book but I think I was too distracted by everything else to really notice it. While I believe this adds an interesting addition to the plot I'm not sure if I actually like the way Elle's character is represented, Perhaps it is because I feel that her (and everyone else's) character is left incomplete, In a positive way however I feel that Elle's able to bring opponents together. "'It's easy to look out for Elle" Risa says then gestures to the gauze in my hand: Maybe not always easy but it's easy to want to you know?" Overall Feelings Things that I liked:⇒ The main character's growth from the first book, ⇒ We finally get a little more explanation behind the Icarii. Things that I didn't like:⇒ Still not having a good sense of the world or where the characters are at. ⇒ The slow pacing and anticlimactic end which was supposed to be a massive cliffhanger for the next book: ⇒ While we get a better idea as to how the Icarii started the entire backstory needed a lot more explanation: Overall I wasn't thrilled with this sequel and found it to be without much purpose. I really was hoping for more progression but this entire book felt like a time filler until the next book in the series is published, However there are some references to more going on between some characters: While this installment isn't as gory as it's predecessor there's still a decent amount, My Rating: □□ My Blog | Bookstagram | Twitter | Pinterest | Facebook Caighlan Smith.

. Im allergic to cats. I'm allergic to cats. You've learned few people can be trusted. But freedom is tantalizingly close. This does not affect my review. I love the world created in this series. Caighlan Smith Wait. What? No. But then there was Theseus.yeah....the one he designed.... and built. That maze. The only way out was to go up. She's not the only one in the maze though. There are essentially 4 different regions of the maze. So much so that I made a list:1.2.3. □ but we never get the full story. I just wish there was more. I'm not sorry that I picked this one. She's clearly competent and confident in her own skills. But as it carried on she was still pretty cool.The only problem I had was her age. I repeatedly forgot that she was sixteen. I thought she was much younger perhaps eleven or twelve. The details are sketchy). I CAN'T EVEN THINK OR BREATHE OR ANYTHING.Are there flaws in this story/series? Quite likely.Will everyone be a fan of these books? Highly doubtful.I anxiously (but eagerly) await the next installment.Read my FULL review here: <https://pooledink.com/2017/09/01/chil>. What I have enjoyed the most was the writing. At times I was genially scared. However I found the main character to be somehow childish. I mean she is a kid of course as she is just 16. However I didn't think she acted as she should. I did enjoy this book and all the characters in it. Advice read book one first. I love mythology and the premise of this book. I liked the creatures too. There are many more hidden horrors in the labyrinth. I wish I could say that we got more answers.Thanks anyway NetGalley."There's always a lot riding on sequels in a series. The best way to survive is by strength in numbers. But where there are people there is treachery. These fights however aren't always provision-related.Within these groups exists hierarchy. However she can only make it so far without help. Pacing & ReadabilityThe pacing mimics Children of Icarus. It is slow slow slow. In three hundred plus pages not a lot happens. Sadly his character became rather flat in this sequel.Theo becomes a more prominent character in this sequel. Elle's character blossomed before my very eyes.Survival is the entire point of this series. = Mental illness"Elle is the beautiful one. I thought what was inside Elle was cruel. And it is. A part of her will always have Prosper."But thank you. For looking out for Elle. Scenes blend into one another. Vulgarity: Minimal. Only five words were counted.Sexual content: Minimal - kissing scenes only.Violence: Quite a lot