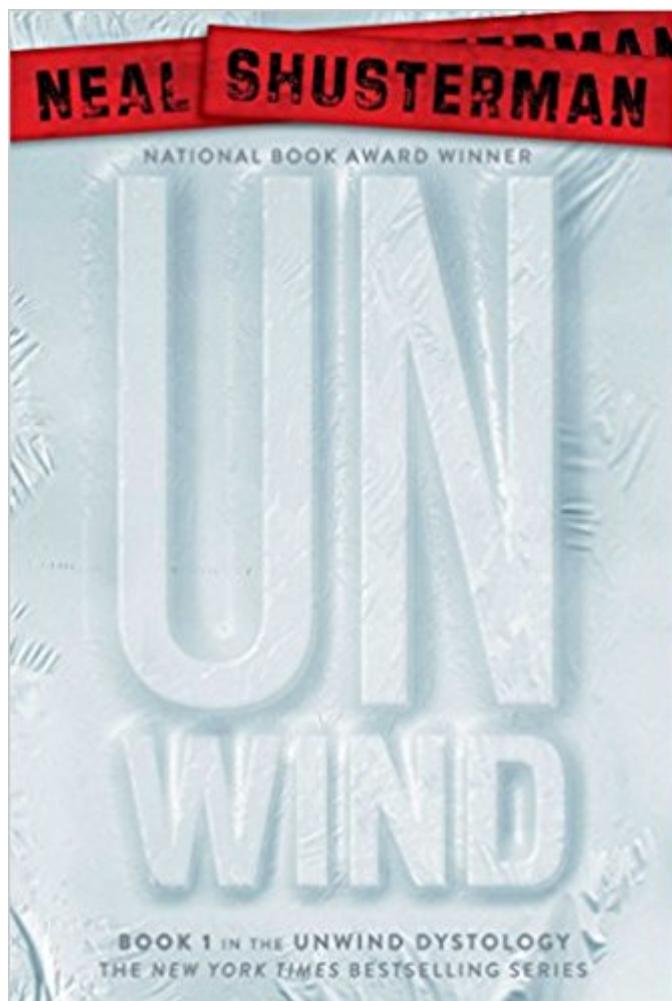


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# Unwind (Unwind Dystology)



## Synopsis

The first twisted and futuristic novel in the perennially popular New York Times bestselling Unwind dystology by Neal Shusterman. In America after the Second Civil War, the Pro-Choice and Pro-Life armies came to an agreement: The Bill of Life states that human life may not be touched from the moment of conception until a child reaches the age of thirteen. Between the ages of thirteen and eighteen, however, a parent may choose to retroactively get rid of a child through a process called "unwinding." Unwinding ensures that the child's life doesn't end by transplanting all the organs in the child's body to various recipients. Now a common and accepted practice in society, troublesome or unwanted teens are able to easily be unwound. With breathtaking suspense, this book follows three teens who all become runaway Unwinds: Connor, a rebel whose parents have ordered his unwinding; Risa, a ward of the state who is to be unwound due to cost-cutting; and Lev, his parents' tenth child whose unwinding has been planned since birth as a religious tithing. As their paths intersect and lives hang in the balance, Shusterman examines complex moral issues that will keep readers turning the pages until the very end.

## Book Information

Series: Unwind Dystology (Book 1)

Paperback: 384 pages

Publisher: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers; Reprint edition (June 2, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1416912053

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Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 1 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 1,127 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #5,567 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #15 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Death & Dying #23 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Action & Adventure > Science Fiction #24 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Action & Adventure > Survival Stories

## Customer Reviews

Starred Review. Grade 7 Up "Set in the future, the second civil war is fought over abortion. To end the war, a compromise is reached that ends the practice of abortion but creates an alternative called "unwinding." Between the ages of 13 and 17, parents or guardians can choose to have their children

unwound, which involves having every part of their bodies harvested to be "donated" to another person so, technically, they don't really die. The complex and compelling plot follows three teens whose stories intertwine when they escape while on their way to the harvest camps.

Fifteen-year-old Connor's parents can no longer control him. Lev, a tithe, was raised by religious parents for the sole purpose of being unwound. Risa, a ward of the state, is a victim of shrinking budgets since she is not a talented enough musician to be kept alive. Neal Shusterman's engrossing novel (S & S, 2007) is narrated in an even cadence and matter-of-fact tone that suits the author's straightforward narrative style. His wide array of voices makes the involved story line, which is left wide open for what is sure to be an interesting sequel, easy to follow. This gripping, thought-provoking novel is guaranteed to lead to interesting discussions about abortion, adoption, organ donation, religion, politics, and health care.â "Karen T. Bilton, Mary Jacobs Memorial Library, Rocky Hill, NJ Copyright Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

"Well-written, this draws the readers into a world that is both familiar and strangely foreign, and generates feelings of horror, disturbance, disgust and fear. As with classics such as "1984" and "Fahrenheit 451", one can only hope that this vision of the future never becomes reality."--"Kirkus Reviews""The power of the novel lies in what it doesn't do: come down explicitly on one side or the other."--"The New York Times Book Review""Nail-biting, character-driven thriller."--"The Horn Book"\*\* "A thought-provoking, well-paced read that will appeal widely."--"School Library Journal", starred review"Poignant, compelling, and ultimately terrifying, this book will enjoy popularity with a wide range of readers."--"VOYA", 4Q4P"Following in the footsteps of Jonathan Swift, Shusterman uncorks a Modest Proposal of his own to solve a Pro-Life/Pro-Choice dilemma...ingeniously developed cast and premise."--"Booklist"\*\* "Gripping, brilliantly imagined futuristic thriller...The issues raised could not be more provocative--the sanctity of life, the meaning of being human--while the delivery could hardly be more engrossing or better aimed to teens."--"Publishers Weekly, "starred review"The shocking premise is unveiled immediately, and a nail-biting pace is sustained throughout, with the teens flung headlong into a true life-or-death struggle...these haunting debates will likely linger in the reader's mind even after the riveting plot fades...an ideal blend of philosophy and action set in a compelling futuristic landscape."--"The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books"

Honestly one of my favorite books! The world is so close to our right now that it is very eerie and

creepy! As time passes this world seems more and more possible! I've read this first book a few times and each time I appreciate different things. The characters are so really but aren't perfect which I love. The world and the characters and the obstacles they run into seem natural and realistic. I really care for these characters and that is because the author has them so fleshed out! Really wish this book had gotten more traction in the media/mainstream. I think there is a lot to learn from these books while being a wonderful read as well! This series will leave you think which is great! The author assumes the reader is smart enough and some of the scariest things about this world are the things that are insinuated and not spelled out for you!

This was a great ride with plenty of action and plot twists. The reader can't help but feel empathy for the teens who are deemed either problematic or expendable and therefore sent to be "unwound". There is an underlying social commentary about pro-life, pro-choice and religious extremism but the author's stance is so imbedded in the story it never becomes pedantic. Update: I enjoyed this book so much I bought a copy to give my son-in-law for Christmas. He doesn't have much time to read and enjoys young adult fiction.

I went into this book with my fair share of skepticism. I had read many reviews & they all seemed to share the same theme, that this was an epic, must read, continually compared with Hunger Games. Myself being a little older now than when I first read Hunger Games & dove into the dystopian genre head first, I was afraid I have become too cynical for my own good. I've been searching for a series for months now to get lost in, to suck me into it's world & it's characters as much as I fell in love with District 12 & Katnis. & let me tell you now, Unwind did not disappoint. I fell in love with Connor & Risa & Lev. It had action, suspense & plot twists. The author did his research & it shows through every page of this book. The plot is heartbreakingly thought provoking & riveting. One of those books that will leave you still thinking about it in the aching moments throughout your day that you have to put it down to actually be responsible. My fingers even now are twitching to get this review out of the way so I can start the 2nd book! It has lived up to it's hype, it is a must read for anyone who has a brain & a heart!

Oh my god. Oh my. GOD. Let me tell you how much I love this book! I finished this book within a day, because I was so intrigued by it. The book is about how Pro Life supporters and Pro Choice supporters had the Heartland War which lead to the signing of The Bill of Life. Before a child is 13 you cannot "unwind" them. Unwinding is pretty much like if someone were to donate a heart, it

would go to someone else. The only difference is instead of donating just an organ....kids being unwound donate their entire bodies. Every part of them is used and attached to someone else's body. The main characters are Connor, Risa and Lev. Connor found out he was going to be Unwind awhile before he actually was, Risa is sent to be Unwind because of budget cuts in State Homes (StaHo) and Lev is a tithe. A tithe believes they are chosen by God to be Unwind for the greater good. Connor, Risa and Lev on their way to be Unwind all happen to find each other and are on the run. The book goes into amazing detail about the characters. All of them are likeable in their own ways and each has a compelling story. Even the characters you are supposed to hate, you end up liking and/or feeling sorry for them. The author does a good job at making you feel at least -something- for the characters. Each of the characters by the end of the book changes for the better. Each of them has learned something new about not only others, but themselves. There is one chapter in the book where something happens to a beloved character and it is VERY graphic. I had to re-read it 3 times! When you get to that part, you'll know. Throughout the entire book all you do is hear from characters who don't want to be unwound, or who know someone who has been unwound. But no one knows the process and that left me curious. The old saying "curiosity kill the cat" was DEAD ON. Because after I read a specific chapter, I wished I hadn't and it made me feel incredibly sad for all those children who were being unwound. This book is a MUST read. TRUST me. You will enjoy this book and be happy you went along for the ride

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