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# Freakling (Psi Chronicles)



## Synopsis

Taemon has always known he's a bit different. But in the walled city of Deliverance, where everyone possesses a form of telekinesis known as psi, being different is dangerous. Being different can get you labeled a freakling. Or worse, see you banished to the Powerless Colony, where even the simplest tasks, like getting dressed or turning on the lights, must be done by hand. Taemon has learned to blend in, to pretend he's just like everyone else in Deliverance. To pretend that he can't send his mind wandering into objects and see exactly how they work. But Taemon's brother, Yens, suspects the truth, and he'll stop at nothing—even murder—to expose Taemon's secret. In this thrilling dystopian novel from newcomer Lana Krumwiede, Taemon must choose between accepting his life among the freaklings or fighting for the destiny he's never wanted—and all that comes with it.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Gr 5-7-This dystopian novel packs a punch with an original premise and a fully developed future society. Taemon, 12, lives in a city where everyone can move objects with their minds, a power called psi. One day, while arguing with his brother, he hears a strange voice and is asked to make a difficult choice. His decision costs him his supernatural abilities. Taemon attempts to fake it for a while, but it's next to impossible. Without psi, he can't even feed himself, since using his hands would reveal his secret. It doesn't take long before he ends up exiled to a colony of "powerless" people. The colony isn't as backward as Taemon was raised to believe, though, and there he learns

valuable lessons about the power he lost and the power still inside him. Meanwhile, his cruel older brother is being groomed as the True Son, a much-revered individual who, according to prophecy, will bring on the next Sacred Cycle. All of this leads to a gutsy conclusion. While the concept of psi and all of its intricacies is described well, at times the narrative feels repetitive, reminding readers that every action is accomplished using it. However, memorable characters; a smooth, suspenseful plotline; and a fascinating premise make this debut a worthy addition to the genre. Give it to kids who are a little too young for Suzanne Collins's *The Hunger Games* (Scholastic, 2008).-Mandy Laferriere, Staley Middle School, Frisco, TX (c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This tale of telekinesis and false messiahs by debut-novelist Krumwiede starts slowly before barreling toward an unexpected and disquieting finale. The city of Deliverance has existed in protected isolation for centuries. The inhabitants all have the power of psi, which allows them to live their lives without touch; everything is controlled by their minds. Twelve-year-old Taemon loses his psi in an accident and is exiled to a colony of duds. What Taemon does not yet understand is that the loss of his psi was not an accident but the result of his own remarkable power and destiny. Deliverance is a theistic society where the citizens have exchanged civil liberties for the everyday ease of psi and, as such, are powerless to recognize a coup when it takes place right before them. Taemon is a thoughtful protagonist whose ability to dismantle an object and learn how it works takes on immense symbolism when he confronts his broken society. His solution is drastic and morally ambiguous, and it will leave readers mulling over its justice. Grades 5-8. --Kara Dean --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

It was a great book with lots of suspense. I recommend it to anyone who loves sci-fi. A must read.

Excellent read and great for teens! The author came to our school and spoke so it made it even more appealing!

This book is the best one I've ever read! Can't wait for the sequel in October! It's heart touching! I was in tears!

This is the best book EVER!!!!!!! It was full of action and adventure, and a lot of suspense!! I LOVE

## THIS BOOK!

Being different is a fear we all face. In Taemon's world, it is a danger. Taemon is part of a community where everyone has psi- the ability to control things with their mind. It is how everything is done. From opening doors, to eating dinner with the family, to getting dressed in the morning. Nothing is done without psi. When Taemon experiences a horrible accident, however, he discovers that he has lost his psi. In his community, a person without psi must be sent to the powerless colony. Taemon does everything he can think to do to keep the truth about his powerlessness from being discovered but everything just isn't enough. Taemon is sent to the "dud farm" where the powerless are sent. It is not what he has always thought, however, and he quickly learns to like the people and the place that he has been sent. But not everything is as it seems. He discovers secrets, secrets hidden away in the colony. His own personal curiosity may now be that downfall of all those that he loves and the way of life that he has always known, and the way of life his is just now learning. That is unless he can fix his own mistakes. This story will have you on the edge of your seat trying to figure out what the characters will do next. I liked this book a lot more than I thought I would. The quickly changing aspects of the novel had me hooked from the start and I couldn't help but feel the loss and the joy and the fear along with the characters. I must admit, however, that I did not in fact feel like the character was thirteen. He came off as much older at times. There were instances when I did believe his age, but for the most part he seemed more like he was fifteen than thirteen. Other than that I really did enjoy this book and am looking forward to getting my hands on book two to see where this story goes. [stephanietiner.weebly.com](http://stephanietiner.weebly.com)

I received a copy of the audiobook version of this book through Audiobook Sync's summer reading program for teenagers with no expectations for anything whatsoever. This is my honest review. This is a dystopian featuring a society that has developed telekinetic powers, powers that they use for literally everything. They don't even write with pen and paper or use their hands to put clothes on. And like most societies, a religion has evolved around their abilities. I don't fully understand their brand of religion/astrology at this point, but it is pretty clearly a big deal and it seems to actually affect their lives and possibly abilities. This was easy for me to accept because I already sort of buy into astrology. I mean, I don't put a ton of stock into it, but I do find it fascinating, so I've read quite a bit about it, enough to notice when it's pretty accurate at least for myself, and in the story, it's pretty accurate about the characters. So Taemon has special abilities that he has to keep hidden and not use ever because his parents fear that their religious leaders would take advantage of him or kill

him, I'm not really sure which. But because he's a teenager, he uses them anyway, sometimes. He's just careful to hide it when he does. It took me until almost the end of the story to figure out why it's important for him to hide his special abilities, because it really just didn't make sense to me for the longest time. I love it when a book keeps me thinking about things like that instead of just spoon-feeding me all the information up front. There was so much about this world that was different and fantastic and I want to spend more time immersing myself in it because there is still so much to learn and see and do. And I need to know how things work out for Taemon in the end, because this is just the first book in a series. So I'm definitely going to have to read more of them when I can find the time. 5 out of 5 stars.

The book *Freakling* was both enjoyable and thought provoking. The young characters were well written and easy to identify with. I cheered for the protagonists and worried about the fate of the young villains. The setting was clearly drawn and pictured distinctly in my mind. Parallels could be seen between the use of psi and the use of technology. And it makes the reader wonder if knowledge is always a good thing. I listened to this as an audio book and was totally entertained. I recommend this book.

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