



by Matthias Morgenroth
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Children's & Young Adults'

I Can See U *I Can See U*

review

Award-winning author Matthias Morgenroth returns with a compelling novel about the pervasiveness of technology and its impact on our lives. *I Can See U* will resonate with a generation Z readership who have grown up with the internet and are attuned to the digital dimensions of human existence.

When a new pupil joins Marie's class at school, she is instantly smitten. Ben is perfect. But after a series of strange events, Marie and her friends start to suspect that all is not as it seems. Ben is always the first in class and the last to leave, and sends people messages but is never seen using his phone. The friends' suspicions are heightened when they discover a locked room full of surveillance monitors at school. It transpires that Ben isn't actually a human being but a machine with artificial intelligence that has been placed in Marie's school to observe the pupils' interactions and prevent bullying. But who is behind the surveillance project, and why has it been implemented? As Ben starts to become autonomous and plan his escape from school, Marie and her friends set out to catch him and find out the truth.

A thought-provoking read with an exciting and disturbing new take on the digitalisation of adolescent life, *I Can See U* is Black Mirror for a teen audience.

about the author

Matthias Morgenroth has been writing children's books and adult

non-fiction for many years. He also works as a journalist and editor for radio and TV, writes for various newspapers, gives seminars, busks with his friends and enjoys going on reading tours. His children's book *Freunde der Nacht* ('Friends of the Night') was awarded the Rattenfänger literature prize. He lives in Munich with his wife and three daughters.

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