



Cameron's Court

Daniel Amory

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Cameron's Court is set in modern day Chicago and is narrated by a troubled, young, native Chicagoan named Cameron Hoffenberg. The events he narrates take place one afternoon between a Christmas party for his high school achievements internship program and the ballet recital of his 4-year-old niece, Chloe. Under the physical and psychological turmoil of adolescence, a host of fragmented thoughts, brash observations, anti-establishment attitudes, strange encounters and deep revelations about himself and the secret importance of that day lead to increasing erratic behavior as he tries to find his place in the world.

Cameron's Court Details

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Author : Daniel Amory

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From Reader Review Cameron's Court for online ebook

Alicia Sheridan says

I got this book free through Goodreads First Reads.

Cameron's Court by Daniel Amory is the story of a high school student who is trying to figure out how he will be remembered and to find his place in the game of life.

This book captures a day in Cameron's life and starts with him attending a Christmas party at the law firm he interns at. As the story goes on, the reader learns that Cameron's dad committed suicide in their basement by hanging himself. It appears that Cameron is still trying to cope with the death of his father, someone who taught him how to "fish in life".

As he goes through the day & meets with several friends, he begins a list of how he would like to be remembered such as good friend, good cousin, and good uncle.

My favorite part of the story was when Cameron goes sledding down the hill. In this scene, he is getting back in touch with his early childhood and how fun it was to do this. After he goes down the hill a second time, he makes a snow angel at the bottom of the hill & he is looking up to the top of the hill and it appears that he sees his father. This makes Cameron cry and it's at this moment that he begins to let go of his grief.

The story closes with Cameron attending his niece's recital. He makes a point to find the stuffed lion that looked happy, keeping in mind what he was told that just because people smile doesn't mean they are happy. As Chloe's recital begins, Cameron finally comes to terms with the revelation he received that day: "a repeat of innocence".

Overall, this was a very good book. The beginning was a little slow but after the scene with the Christmas party, it began to pick up. I enjoyed the deeper meaning and the thoughts Cameron was working through as his day unfolded.

archdandy says

I went into this book wanting to like it but it just didn't do it for me. Maybe I wasn't in the right mood or maybe it was just the author's writing style but I found this book very depressing. It tells the story of a young Cameron through the day of his father's passing one year earlier.

I felt like the character's thoughts were very fragmented, almost manic and I wasn't sure if that was done purposefully or if it is just the way the author writes. I didn't like it because it made it so I couldn't connect with the character. He repeated a lot of the same words, descriptions and sentences, A LOT! I felt like the whole last chapter was a rehash of the rest of the story, which wasn't necessary considering the story was only 168 pages.

The ending was nice and it's what kind of saved the story. I really liked Cameron's niece, she was cute. All in all, I'm glad this was a short read.

Vicky says

I won "Cameron's Court" through a Goodreads giveaway.

I read it in one day. True, it isn't a long novel but still. I rarely find or take the time to do that. But it somehow felt like the novel needed to be read quickly almost with no interruption. Because the story takes place over one day, yes, but also because the entire novel is a reflexion, and I didn't want to interrupt the thought process. It felt like all that wandering through the city, through Cameron's short life, through his observations, thoughts and reflexions was leading somewhere and I wanted to go there, and get there today.

I loved the pace, loved how the novel is built around small chapters each capturing a different event in that day, a different set of thoughts. There's a lot of running away on Cameron's part. He finds himself in situations he doesn't want to witness, having to face other people's grief or what he imagines their grief must be. Death is omnipresent throughout the novel, in different forms but it is central to the story. Grief as well.

There's an interesting duality taking place as Cameron observes others and dissects his perception of who they are and as he tries to observe himself through others eyes or through trying to figure out how he would like to be remembered... A kind of mirror play, the image seen teaches not only about the image itself but also about who is looking. Through his perceptions and observations of others, he discovers himself.

At times, reading, I thought that the character is too mature for his age, that his thoughts although wandering are too sharp and focused, aimed at getting somewhere for such a young man to have them...but I'm not so sure about that, the more I think about it, the more believable it seems...?

I definitely enjoyed it, an emotionally charged but beautiful glance into Cameron's life.

Sherri Huntley says

Cameron's Court is a story of one young man's day on the anniversary of his father's death. The father's death isn't the center of the story but it shapes the day as we follow Cameron. The story is simple and concise but I feel like I should be taking away some coming of age lesson from it. Unfortunately if there is a lesson I missed it. It's very real though, Cameron seeks diversion after diversion without consciously realizing his effort to not delve too deeply into his own mind on this important day. I am glad to have won this book from Goodreads!

Tabitha Elizabeth says

Unfortunately, I could not get through the first five pages. I actually went through with a pencil and marked all of the grammatical errors. I think Mr. Amory should probably have someone read through his book and fix the mistakes before he bothers to self-publish again. With that, it is still poorly written. There is no variation of sentence structure and he repeats needless information. I'm glad I didn't spend any money on it. The storyline may be good, but I could not get past the writing.

Rosemary Stoneman says

I received this in a Goodreads first reads contest.

This book takes place over the course of a day in young Cameron's life. The book was a nice short read that did have its thought provoking moments. Unfortunately this book did not really grab my interest so I never really got into it. It was nice and I could see it had promise but it was just not for me.

Charlotte says

I got this book for free through a Goodreads giveaway.

I'm on the fence about this book. It was reminiscent of J.D. Salinger's The Catcher in the Rye. The story had a good concept, and it flowed pretty well. I just didn't like how Holden Caulfield-esque Cameron was. Now that I'm thinking about it, both character's initials are the same, just swapped.

Overall, it was an ok book, but I still prefer The Catcher in the Rye.

Sue says

I won a copy of Cameron's Court by Daniel Amory, through the Goodreads Giveaway Contest.

The book takes place in the span of a day, but the thoughts and feelings we experience through Cameron took a lifetime to accumulate. This is a coming-of-age tale that takes place in a frigid Chicago setting. The temperature is rather reflective of Cameron's numb emotional state. The story tends to lean toward the sad side, but letting go of one's innocence and embracing the future unfortold is an especially daunting task for Cameron. This book is a thought-provoking read that will elicit the entire spectrum of emotions as you make the journey through the day, and life, alongside Cameron.

Throughout this novel the same message is replayed over and over. How do you want to be remembered? It made me stop for a moment, and give it serious reflection. I believe any age group can enjoy this novel...because it makes you stop and think have I accomplished all that is important in my life.

Cheyenne Ellis says

I won a copy of this book in the first-reads giveaway. It was very interesting to see all of Cameron's thoughts about life and very funny in some parts. I think Cameron encounters a lot of things that people can relate to which makes this book very meaningful. I enjoyed reading about Cameron's adventures that all take place in one afternoon as he struggles to discover who he is and how he fits into the world.

Kai says

Cameron's Court is a story about self-discovery. Cameron begins his story with the Christmas party at one of the State Attorney employee's house. He was disgusted with everybody and angry that there was no purpose in his life. Most of the anger was from his father's suicide a year to date. He couldn't understand why his father took his own life.

Cameron was a senior in high school and was going to study law. He has so many people giving him the advice of what kind of law to study and where the most money was being made.

Somehow during that whole day while he was walking around, Cameron was observing people around him. He made a few trips to the museum and pondered how he wanted people to remember him. There were two paintings that made an impression on him. At the end he realized what he has lost when his father took his own life.

Cameron's Court is not a thriller. This story is more about the inner-self struggle trying to make sense of the life and world that we are living in. It is a man vs himself type of story.

Tami says

I haven't received my copy yet, just received notice I had won. 01/20/12

Received my copy last night, I have 8 others plus my current read in front, but hope to get to it soon. 2/10/12

Started last night, 2/28/12

Finished 2/29/12

Cameron is a senior in high school and questioning his life path. His day starts at a party for the internship he is part of and ends at the dance recital of his 4 year old niece. Along the day, he meets and talks with a whole diverse group of people.

I wanted to like this book but the story was so fragmented that I really couldn't get into it. I feel the author had some great ideas, story shorts, and such but that nothing really came from any of it. The highlight of the book for me is where Ice Cream comes from. That is why it tastes so good!

Zoe says

I really liked Cameron's Court. Cameron is in high school. The story starts off with him at a holiday party for his internship program and takes you through the day leading up to his four year old niece's dance recital. It seems like throughout the day he is on two journeys--one he knows about and one he only realizes later in the story. His musings about society and the people around him are entertaining to say the least. He's a bit snarky at times, a bit critical and at the same time under his tough persona, it seems, somewhat sensitive and inquisitive. He talks about his family and his kinship, in a way, with his niece and at one point he openly says he feels everything was "better" when he was her age (of what he remembers when he thinks back to being her age). His friends are a collection of different personalities, but you can see that he takes pride in his

friendship with each one. But it is the secret that he reveals, later in the story, that starts eating himself inside with thoughts about life and his future.

Johanna says

This book follows Cameron over the course of a single day, the anniversary of his father's death, as he struggles to find meaning and purpose in life. At 18 years old, he stands on the great precipice of adulthood, not knowing what he wants to make of himself, or how he wants to be remembered. He travels the streets of Chicago, meeting old friends, and making new ones, as he tries to come to terms with his future and to make sense of the world around him.

This book reminded me quite a bit of *The Catcher In The Rye*, with the continuous, streaming thoughts of the protagonist, confused, manic, with a pressing sense of urgency. It's somehow impossible to set the book down for fear of interrupting this, and I finished it in one sitting. I would venture to say that if you enjoyed *The Catcher*, you will most likely enjoy this book as well, which I honestly did. It's exactly the kind of book that gets you thinking about the little things in life, the little moments that you share with people, and how they just may be more meaningful than you think.

I have received this book for free through Goodreads First Reads.

Leigh says

I thought this book was good. I liked Cameron and found him interesting and at times funny. I got into this book and read it in an afternoon. It seemed fitting as the story takes place in a day of Cameron's life. Very enjoyable book. I received this book for free through a Goodreads First Reads give away.

Amanda Freeman says

The book takes place in the span of a day, but the thoughts and feelings we experience through Cameron took a lifetime to accumulate. This is a coming-of-age tale that takes place in a frigid Chicago setting. The temperature is rather reflective of Cameron's numb emotional state. The story tends to lean toward the sad side, but letting go of one's innocence and embracing the future unfortold is an especially daunting task for Cameron. This book is a thought-provoking read that will elicit the entire spectrum of emotions as you make the journey through the day, and life, alongside Cameron.
