

Behind the Waterfall

Molly Best Tinsley

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In a compact and powerful novel, Molly Best Tinsley describes the family dynamics and escalating conflict of the Eaglemans. Twins Chetan and Nashota Eagleman are tired of moving to a different town every year, as is their sister Shyla. But when their mother chooses to uproot them to Bison, South Dakota, they find themselves embroiled in a new set of problems—ones that risk not only their family's safety, but the world's.

Behind the Waterfall is a novel of special powers and hidden secrets, of criminals and dark plots. Far from being only an action novel, the work focuses on the changing family dynamics of the Eaglemans, who struggle to maintain their family unit in a world that seems to be tearing them farther and farther apart.

Tinsley's prose is her shining accomplishment here, representing, in snapshots, the mysterious depths of the tight-knit Eagleman family, with a mixture of both nostalgia and dreamlike wonder. From the intriguing, mysterious prologue to the surprising conclusion, her quiet reflections on the characters' journey help to show not only their triumph over outside forces, but their inner transformations as well.

Perfect for those looking for young adult novels with heart, *Behind the Waterfall* is a quiet but forceful novel with a little bit for everyone, from strong action and character growth to themes of family, love, and purpose.

STEPHANIE BUCKLIN (Spring 2016)

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