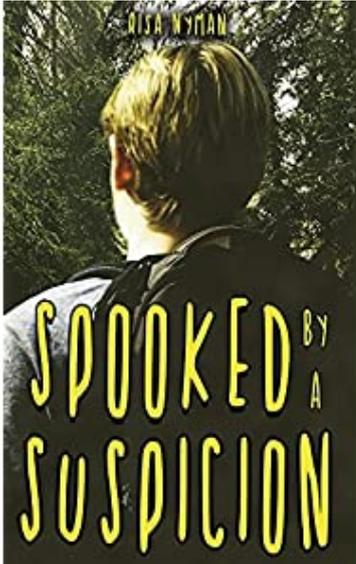




# Readers' Favorite® Book Reviews and Award Contest

## Book Review Mini-Critique



Below you will find ratings (scale of 1-5) with descriptions for the major parts of your book followed by your Readers' Favorite review. Although these are general ratings we hope they will give you an insight into how others may view the different components of your book.

These are the opinions of your reviewer, and although your reviewer is not an expert literary critic or professional editor, they are at the very least, an avid reader of books just like yours.

**Title:** Spooked by a Suspicion  
**Author:** Risa Nyman  
**Genre:** Children - Coming of Age



**Appearance:** The appearance of a book can make a significant impact on the experience of a reader, whose enjoyment is often enhanced by an enticing cover, an intriguing table of contents, interesting chapter headings, and when possible, eye-catching illustrations.

**4**

**Plot:** The characters of a book should be well defined with strengths and flaws, and while they do not have to be likable, the reader does have to be able to form a connection with them. The tone should be consistent, the theme should be clear, and the plot should be original or told from a unique perspective. For informative books -- those without plot and characters--this rating refers primarily to your concept and how well you presented it.

**5**

**Development:** Development refers to how effectively you told your story or discussed your topic. The dialogue should be realistic, the descriptions should be vivid, and the material should be concise and coherent. Organization is also a key factor, especially for informative books -- those without plot and characters. The order in which you tell your story or explain your topic and how smoothly it flows can have a huge impact on the reader's understanding and enjoyment of the material.

**5**

**Formatting:** Formatting is the single most overlooked area by authors. The way in which you describe scenes, display dialogue, and shift point of view can make or break your story. In addition, excessive grammatical errors and typos can give your book an amateurish feel and even put off readers completely.

**5**

**Marketability:** Marketability refers to how effectively you wrote your book for your target audience. Authors may include content that is above or below the understanding of their target reader, or include concepts, opinions or language that can accidentally confuse or alienate some readers. Although by its nature this rating is very subjective, a very low rating here and poor reviews may indicate an issue with your book in this area.

**5**

**Overall Opinion:** The overall starred rating takes into account all these elements and describes the overall reading experience of your reviewer. This is the official Readers' Favorite review rating for your book.

**5**

**Review:**

Reviewed by Natalie Soine for Readers' Favorite

Spooked by a Suspicion by Risa Nyman tells the intriguing story of thirteen-year-old Rocky who lives with his mother Marybeth and his grandfather. Rocky is not yet over the death of his father when his mother shocks him with the announcement that she is going to get married to Ted. Rocky feels that he has had too many changes in his life already and doesn't want another. Soccer is Rocky's first love and he dedicates himself to practicing his position as a goalie, hoping for a scholarship to college with a ranked soccer team. His friends Max and Olive try to help Rocky through this transition in his life but he's having none of this Ted fellow invading his family. Ted does everything he can to win Rocky over but the situation goes from bad to worse when strange things start happening. Rocky receives a scholarship to the Lakeside Arts and Writing Program where he finds himself in a worse dilemma than ever before when he is falsely accused due to people making assumptions. The young boy ends up in a life-threatening situation and puts all his skills and knowledge to the test to rescue his reputation.

Spooked by a Suspicion is beautifully written with an array of interesting characters including Rocky, Olive, Marybeth, and the usurper, Ted. The scenes and locations at the school, Lakeside, and their home are all vividly described, making it easy for the reader to form a mental picture. Risa Nyman does a superb job of capturing Rocky's emotional roller-coaster ride as he struggles his way through the changes that life throws at him. This story contains many real-life scenarios that most people endure at some point, but fortunately, there is light at the end of the tunnel as the author takes us through the process that Rocky must experience in his own life. The story is suspenseful and exciting from beginning to end. A fantastic book suitable for children and adults, especially those who want to introduce potential new family members.