



## TEEN SERVICES COMMUNITY SERVICE TEEN BOOK REVIEW

### *Scythe* By Neal Shusterman Reviewed by Justin Doxsee

**Name:** Justin Doxsee

**Grade:** 7

**Book Title:** Scythe

**Author:** Neal Shusterman

**Number of Pages:** 433

**Rating (on a scale of 1-5):** 5/5

#### **Character List:**

- **Scythe Faraday**-The original scythe to take on both Citra and Rowan as apprentices under him. Later, he supposedly self-gleans himself.
- **Citra**-One of the two apprentices under Scythe Faraday, who, after Scythe Faraday Self-Gleans himself, is put under the care of Scythe Curie. Citra is 16 years old like Rowan and is rather sassy to Scythes. She's so sassy she'll refuse anything a scythe asks.
- **Rowan**-The second apprentice Scythe Faraday takes on. After Scythe Faraday gleans himself, Rowan is put under the care of Scythe Goddard. Rowan is 16 years old and hangs out with his friends on a daily basis, and goes to school, until he becomes a Scythe.
- **Scythe Curie**-The scythe that took on Citra after Scythe Faraday self-gleans himself. Cita is a scythe who gleans quick and clean not making her victims cry, suffer, or beg for mercy. She will often kill wrong teens or misbehaving humans.
- **Scythe Goddard**- The Scythe that took on Rowan as an apprentice after Scythe Faraday, Scythe Goddard is the Scythe that enjoys killing so much he makes it a bloodbath. Scythe Goddard kills hundreds each time when the quota is more than 200. He turns Rowan into a killing machine.

#### **Review:**

In the current year, humanity has conquered death, and the only way to keep the population under control is to glean (kill) people, a job which is given to people named Scythes. In order to become one, you must get taken under the wing of a current Scythe. Scythe Faraday takes both Citra and Rowan under his wing, because of the compassion they showed for other humans and the sass to not be corrupted. Neither of them want to have the job, because they both think Scythes aren't as powerful as other humans and don't deserve their power. Citra and Rowan have no choice but to listen to Scythe Faraday after becoming Scythes. Also, only one of them will get the ring. The ring signifies that they're a Scythe, that they must be respected, and that they can pass out immunity to people for one year so they won't be gleaned. After Scythe Faraday self-gleans himself, both of the apprentices are taken under the wing of another Scythe.

Meet Scythe Curie: the nice Scythe who picks Citra. Citra is taught to glean quick and fast and learns not to make her victims suffer. Rowan is put with Scythe Goddard who is a greedy, bloodthirsty man who kills in big crowds making it a

bloodbath. Each apprentice must take three tests, and they deliberately fail each test to make sure the other apprentice gets the ring. The goal of these tests is to see which apprentice is a better Scythe. Citra and Rowan deliberately fail because Scythe Goddard makes it so whichever apprentice fails the three tests, the other apprentice is killed. Citra and Rowan don't want this because both of them fall in love and don't want to win.

Part action, part fantasy, *Scythe* is a tale about when all diseases are cured and there is no death other than fire, and also the population gets too high and the Scythes have to kill the normal in order to keep the population under control. The author Neal Shusterman hooks readers with this tale of love, action, and suspense. I would rate this book a 10/10 and I personally recommend this to those people who love suspense books and read for hours at a time!