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Table of Contents What is Restart about? This book tells the captivating story of Chase Ambrose, a boy who suffers from amnesia. After falling off his roof, he wakes up unaware of his identity and past actions. As Chase returns to school, he must navigate the reactions of his peers and redefine who he wants to become. Book Details Title: Restart Author: Gordon Korman Published: May 30, 2017 Pages: 256 Genre: Middle Grade, Young Adult, Realistic Fiction Synopsis of RestartIntroduction to Chase Ambrose Chase Ambrose awakens in a hospital bed, confused and disoriented. He has no memory of his life, family, or friends. Following a serious fall from the roof, he suffers from acute retrograde amnesia. Armed with a blank slate, he struggles to reconstruct who he is. He remembers his name, but nothing else. As he returns to Hiawassee Middle School, Chase faces a bewildering challenge. His former life has left an indelible mark on his peers. Each student's reaction paints a different picture of who he once was. Some classmates view him as a hero, while others shrink away in fear. Among them is Shoshanna, who expresses her anger by dumping frozen yogurt on him. Their reactions provoke thoughts about his former self and the choices that shaped his past. Chase embarks on an uncertain path of rediscovery. He grapples with whether he is doomed to repeat the mistakes of his previous life. Contrasting Perspectives Restart offers rich aspestry of character viewpoints. Various narrators shed light on the tangled web of Chase's prior actions. Bullies and victims share their side of the story, adding complexity to Chase's redemption arc. It becomes clear that Chase was once a ruthless bully, supported by loyal friends, Bear and Aaron. Their influence inspires fear among peers, especially a music prodigy named Joel, whom they tormented mercilessly. Through flashbacks and first-hand accounts, Chase must confront the reality of his past behavior. As snippets of his memory begin to resurface, he hunts for answers. Chase learns that he hurt people in ways that can't be easily erased. Each new revelation deepens his inner turmoil and remorse. The warmth of his intentions clashes with the reality of his previous behavior. Will he be able to maintain his newfound kindness, or will his old self resurface? A Chance for Redemption Chase's desire to change becomes the story's heart. Wrestling with internal conflict, he aims to redefine himself. In an effort to change, he joins the school's video club, where creativity and collaboration abound. The club presents him with opportunities to connect with his classmates. But will they accept him? Children often remember their past tormentor all too well. Chase's relationships are strained by suspicion and fear. Each attempt to mend fences is met with varying degrees of resistance and skepticism. Slowly, as Chase shows kindness and determination, some begin to notice the change. The journey is never linear; he faces setbacks that challenge his resolve. His interactions with Joel, the boy he bullied most mercilessly, fuel his desire for redemption. The story emphasizes that changing perceptions takes time. Through moments of vulnerability and honesty, Chase seeks forgiveness. Will the young boy he tormented forgive him? Each encounter serves as a reminder of the pain he caused, and his struggle to evolve continues. Thematic Elements At its core, Restart examines themes of identity, redemption, and the power of forgiveness. It asks the reader to ponder the nature of personal transformation. Can one truly change, or are people forever haunted by their pasts? Chase's metamorphosis resonates not only with teens but with adult readers as well. The narrative skillfully balances humor with reflection, capturing the adolescent experience authentically. Alongside the humor, clear lessons about empathy and kindness emerge. Korman skillfully addresses sensitive subjects such as bullying and the repercussions it inflicts on victims. The story shines a spotlight on peer relationships and their significant impact on one's self-esteem. It conveys that through genuine effort, individuals can transcend their past. The diverse cast of characters adds depth to the narrative. From supportive friends to hesitant peers, every character plays a role in Chase's transformation. Their viewpoints underline the social dynamics at play in middle school. Ultimately, Restart is not merely a tale of amnesia but a powerful exploration of second chances. A Heartwarming Conclusion The climax of Chase's story resonates with hope and warmth. The resolution unfolds in a manner that feels refreshing rather than forced. Readers are left with an understanding that personal growth is both possible and challenging. Chase's journey culminates not in perfection but in authenticity. The narrative suggests that while mistakes are part of life, the willingness to change is what truly matters. As Chase finally begins to reconcile his old and new selves, he finds acceptance among his peers. Slowly, his past does not overshadow his present but informs it. Through genuine friendships and shared experiences, he begins anew, armed with the lessons of his past. Restart is a powerful reminder that kindness and empathy can lead to remarkable transformations. The bond between forgotten memories and newfound relationships shapes a resilient, hopeful future. From here you can jump to the Spoilers section right away. Below you can search for another book summary: Alternative Book CoverComing soon...

Quotes "This is an awful thing that's happened to you, but it's also presenting you with a rare opportunity. You have the chance to rebuild yourself from the ground up, to make a completely fresh start."—Gordon Korman,Restart "I've been victimized but that doesn't mean I have to be a victim."—Gordon Korman,Restart "If it looks like a duck, and it quacks like a duck, it's probably a duck."—Gordon Korman,Restart You want to give Restart a try? Here you go! Characters Chase Ambrose: The protagonist, a former bully who struggles to redefine himself after losing his memory. Shoshanna: A classmate who harbors resentment towards Chase for his bullying. Her journey parallels Chase's as she learns about forgiveness. Joel: A student previously victimized by Chase, representing the painful legacy of Chase's past actions. Brendan: Chase's former friend who struggles with loyalty versus the right thing to do. Kimberly: Another classmate who helps reveal different facets of Chase's past while navigating her own feelings about him. Highlights Transformation: Chase's character arc focuses on self-discovery and the journey of change. Amnesia Theme: The story explores how memories shape identity and influence behavior. Bullying Reflection: Addresses the impact of bullying and the importance of empathy. Multiple Perspectives: Told from various characters' viewpoints, allowing a comprehensive view of Chase's effect on others. Hope and Redemption: Conveys powerful messages about forgiveness and the possibility of change. Spoilers Spoiler Alert! If you want to read the book, don't click "Show more" and spoil your experience. Here is a link for you to get the book. Chase's Past: Chase was a cruel bully, feared and hated by many students. Confronting His Actions: As memories resurface, Chase learns about the pain he caused, particularly to Joel. Video Club: Joining the video club helps Chase find new friendships and rebuild his life. Redemptive Actions: Chase tries to make amends by being kind and helping others, especially in the senior center. Shoshanna's Revenge: Initially, Shoshanna pours yogurt on Chase, symbolizing her anger and unresolved feelings. Let us know what you think about this book and the summary in the comment section at the end of the page. FAQs about Restart The book explores themes of identity, transformation, bullying, and second chances.Restart is aimed at middle-grade readers but resonates with young adults and adults alike.Yes, it is a standalone novel, but it features themes common in Korman's works.The book is suitable for readers aged 10-14 and up.Yes, the story concludes with hope and redemption for Chase and his peers. Reviews For a deeper exploration of Restart and to see readers' various perspectives visit our comprehensive review page. Are you looking for a nice read that perfectly fits your current mood? Here is a free book suggestion tool. It gives you suggestions based on your taste. Also a likelihood rating for each recommended book. Would you like to find the book you will love later or now? Gordon Korman is a celebrated Canadian author known for his children's and young adult novels. With over 30 million copies sold worldwide, Korman's storytelling continues to captivate readers of all ages. Are you looking for a nice read that perfectly fits your current mood? Here is a free book suggestion tool. It gives you suggestions based on your taste. Also a likelihood rating for each recommended book. Would you like to find the book you will love later or now? Conclusion We hope you found this synopsis of Restart enjoyable. Summaries like this offer a glimpse into the rich narrative, but the full story invites you to experience the journey of transformation, friendship, and redemption. Ready to explore more? Get your copy of Restart! DISCLAIMER: This book summary is meant as a summary and an analysis and not a replacement for the original work. If you are the original author of any book on our website and want us to remove it, please contact us. "Restart" by Gordon Korman is a young adult novel that explores the themes of identity, change, and redemption. The story unfolds through the eyes of multiple first-person narrators, providing a rich and varied perspective on the events that transpire in our day-to-day lives. The novel begins with a jarring scene: the protagonist, 13-year-old Chase Ambrose, falls from the roof of his house, leading to acute retrograde amnesia. Waking up in a hospital room, Chase is bewildered to find that he doesn't recognize anyone around him, including his own family. Dr. Cooperman, his physician, explains the extent of his amnesia. The only memory Chase retains is a fleeting image of a little girl in a blue dress. Returning home, Chase feels like a stranger in his own life. His encounters with his overbearing father, young stepmother, and stepister are strained and reveal underlying tensions. The discovery of his past as a celebrated football player for the Hiawassee Middle School Hurricanes does little to alleviate his confusion. The narrative shifts between various characters, including Shoshanna Weber, who holds a deep grudge against Chase for bullying her twin brother Joel. Chase's former friends, Aaron and Bear, also grapple with the implications of his amnesia and renew their roost housing ways, which only adds to his unease. As Chase navigates his return to school and the complex social dynamics, he realizes how his past actions have affected those around him. The faculty and students' reactions to him range from fear to disdain, revealing his former self's unflattering reputation. The story takes a turn when Chase joins the video club, led by Brendan Espinoza. Through his involvement in the club and his interactions with members like Kimberly Tooley, who harbors a secret crush on him, Chase begins to enjoy a side of life he never knew before. However, his participation in the club causes friction with his old friends and creates new alliances. The plot thickens as Chase uncovers the truth about a stolen Medal of Honor belonging to Mr. Julius Solway, a resident at the Portland Street Assisted Living Residence. The journey towards finding and returning the medal involves confrontations, confessions, and the unraveling of Chase's past misdeeds. In a dramatic climax, Chase is brought before a judge, facing charges for stealing the Medal of Honor. Surprisingly, the courtroom fills with students and teachers from his school, all there to attest to the positive changes in his character. The testimony of Mr. Solway, wearing the Medal of Honor, plays a crucial role in the judge's decision. Central to the novel is the theme of identity. Chase's amnesia forces him to reevaluate who he is, stripped of his memories and past behaviors. This journey of self-discovery highlights the fluidity of identity and challenges the notion that people are unchangeable. As Chase interacts with his family, peers, and new friends, he confronts the stark contrast between who he was and who he wants to be. This exploration of identity extends to other characters as well, such as Shoshanna and Joel, who also grapple with their perceptions and personal growth. The novel effectively illustrates how identity is shaped not just by our past, but by our actions and decisions in the present. Korman skillfully addresses the theme of redemption and the lasting impact of one's actions. Chase's journey is not just about discovering who he was but also dealing with the consequences of his past behaviors. His story is a poignant exploration of how actions, especially negative ones, can have far-reaching effects on others. The novel doesn't shy away from the pain caused by bullying and the ripple effects it has on victims, bullies, and bystanders. Yet, it also offers a hopeful perspective on redemption, suggesting that people have the capacity to change and make amends. This theme is particularly relevant for young readers, offering a nuanced view of the complexities of human relationships. Accountability and the possibility of forgiveness. Throughout the book, the relationships between characters are in constant flux, evolving as the characters themselves grow and change. These dynamics are especially evident in how Chase's relationships with his family, old friends, and new acquaintances develop over the course of the story. The theme of empathy is woven throughout these interactions, as characters learn to understand and feel for others' experiences and emotions. This is particularly evident in Chase's changing relationships with the video club members and his former victims. The novel underscores the importance of empathy in fostering healthy relationships and building a supportive community. This theme resonates strongly with young adults, who are often navigating the complex world of social interactions and learning to empathize with others' perspectives. "Restart" is a story of transformation and the possibility of change. It challenges the reader to consider the impact of their actions on others and the potential for redemption. Korman masterfully weaves a tale that is not only engaging but also deeply thought-provoking, making it a must-read for young adults and others who enjoy insightful, character-driven stories. Overview: More Than a Bullying StoryGordon Korman's Restart isn't just about a bully who gets amnesia—it's a nuanced exploration of identity, second chances, and societal prejudice. After a fall erases his memory, Chase Ambrose, a middle school football star, must rebuild his sense of self while confronting the harm he caused. Korman uses multiple first-person narrators to dissect themes like accountability, forgiveness, and whether people can truly change. Plot Summary:Chase wakes up in a hospital with no memory of his past. He discovers he was a notorious bully, feared by peers like Brendan Espinoza (a video club nerd) and Shoshanna Weber (whose brother Joel he tormented). His father, a former athlete, pressures him to reclaim his "alpha" persona, while his mother hopes the amnesia will soften him. Key Literary Techniques: Multiple Perspectives: Korman introduces several narrators like Brendan and Shoshanna to explore Chase's self-perception with others' trauma. Foreshadowing: Chase's discomfort around his old friends Bear and Aaron, hints at their toxic influence. Symbolism: The hospital's sterile environment mirrors Chase's "blank slate" identity. Themes: Nurture: Is Chase's bullying inherent or learned? Parental Pressure: His father's obsession with athletic glory vs. his mother's desire for empathy. Plot Summary:Chase struggles to reconcile his past actions (revealed through others' stories) with his new self. He bonds with Brendan, who reluctantly gives him a job at a senior center. Meanwhile, Shoshanna remains hostile, fearing Chase's "reform" is an act. Key Conflicts: Chase vs. Himself: He grapples with guilt after learning he destroyed Brendan's drone. Chase vs. Society: Teachers and classmates monitor him, waiting for him to "snap back" to bullying. Character Development: Brendan: Starts as a victim but shows courage by giving Chase a chance. Shoshanna: Her anger masks fear—she represents everyone scarred by Chase's past. Symbolic Moment:The senior center's elderly residents (like Mr. Solway) reflect Chase's journey—both are rebuilding identities. Plot Summary:Chase's athletic instincts resurface during football practice, unsettling him. He discovers he stole a Medal of Honor from Mr. Solway, a WWII veteran. Meanwhile, Bear and Aaron pressure him to revert to old habits. Literary Highlights: Dramatic Irony: Readers know Chase's past, but he's oblivious, making his moral choices (returning the medal) more impactful. Parallelism: Chase and Mr. Solway both lost parts of themselves (memory/medal) and seek redemption. Pivotal Scene:Chase returns the medal to Solway, defying his father's expectations. This act symbolizes his rejection of toxic masculinity. Plot Summary:Chase's friendship with the video club deepens, but Bear and Aaron sabotage their film project. A confrontation reveals footage of Chase's past bullying, forcing the school to reckon with systemic enabling of junk culture. Key Themes: Institutional Failure: Coaches and teachers ignored Chase's behavior because he was a star athlete. Redemption: Chase publicly apologizes, but Korman leaves his acceptance ambiguous—not everyone forgives. Symbolic Ending:The restored film project (a documentary about his videos) amplifies reputations, but also offers redemption. Parental Influence: Examines how parental pressure shapes behavior, for better or worse. Explore More Estimated read time: 5 min readAfter suffering a head injury, a bully must navigate a new identity and make amends for his past actions.In the book "Restart" by Gordon Korman, readers are taken on a journey with Chase Ambrose, a teenager who wakes up in a hospital with no memory of his past. As he tries to piece together his life, he discovers that he used to be a bully. The story explores themes of redemption, second chances, and the power of change. Through Chase's experiences, the book offers valuable insights into the impact of our actions and the potential for personal growth.Brief SynopsisPlot OverviewThe story is set in the town of Lincoln, where Chase Ambrose wakes up in the hospital after falling off a roof. He has amnesia and cannot remember anything about his life. As he returns to school, he discovers that he used to be a bully, and the students he once tormented are now his friends. Throughout the book, Chase tries to reconcile his past behavior with the person he wants to become.SettingThe story is primarily set in the small town of Lincoln, where the high school and its social dynamics play a significant role in the narrative. The town serves as a microcosm for exploring the complexities of human relationships and personal growth.Main CharactersThe story features several key characters who play essential roles in Chase's journey of self-discovery.CharacterDescriptionChase AmbroseThe protagonist who wakes up with amnesia and must come to terms with his past actions.Joel WeberChase's former victim who is now one of his closest friends.Shoshanna WeberJoel's sister and another person Chase mistreated in the past.Mr. SolwayChase's former football coach who provides guidance and support.Aaron HalkinChase's former best friend who is now wary of him due to their shared history.Chapters 1-3: Amnesia and DiscoveryChase wakes up in the hospital with amnesia and begins to piece together his life. He learns about his past behavior and the impact it has on others. Chapters 4-6: Building New ConnectionsChase forms friendships with Joel and Shoshanna, the siblings he mistreated in the past. He begins to see the impact of his actions and seeks to make amends.Chapters 10-12: Confronting the PastAs Chase delves deeper into his past, he confronts the consequences of his bullying and the rifts it has caused in his relationships. He starts to question his identity and the person he wants to become.Chapters 13-15: Seeking RedemptionChase works to make things right with those he hurt and seeks forgiveness from his former victims. He grapples with the challenges of change and the difficulty of earning trust.Chapters 16-18: Embracing ChangeThrough his experiences, Chase begins to embrace the potential for personal growth and the opportunity to redefine himself. He starts to understand the power of second chances.Main EventsChase wakes up in the hospital with amnesia, unable to remember his past actions.He returns to school and faces the students he used to bully, including Joel and Shoshanna.Chase grapples with the consequences of his past behavior and seeks to make amends.He confronts the challenges of earning forgiveness and rebuilding trust with those he hurt.Through his journey, Chase begins to embrace the potential for personal growth and change.Themes and InsightsRedemption and Second ChancesThe book explores the theme of redemption as Chase seeks to atone for his past actions. It also delves into the idea of second chances and the potential for individuals to change and grow.Consequences of ActionsThrough Chase's experiences, the book offers insights into the lasting impact of our actions on others. It highlights the ripple effects of bullying and the importance of taking responsibility for one's behavior.Personal Growth and IdentityAs Chase grapples with his past, the narrative delves into the themes of personal growth and identity. It demonstrates the transformative power of self-reflection and the potential for individuals to redefine themselves.Reader's Takeaway"Restart" offers readers a compelling exploration of redemption, personal growth, and the complexities of human relationships. It serves as a poignant reminder of the impact of our actions and the potential for positive change. The book's themes resonate with readers of all ages, making it a thought-provoking and engaging read.Conclusion"Restart" by Gordon Korman delivers a powerful and insightful narrative that invites readers to reflect on their own actions and the potential for personal growth. Through Chase's journey, the book navigates themes of redemption, second chances, and the transformative power of change. As readers follow Chase's path to self-discovery, they are presented with a compelling and thought-provoking narrative that leaves a lasting impression.The genre of "Restart" is young adult fiction.Gordon Korman is the author of "Restart."The main theme of "Restart" revolves around identity, second chances, and the impact of one's actions on others.The book "Restart" follows the story of a boy who wakes up in the hospital with amnesia, and as he tries to piece together his past, he discovers that he wasn't the most likable person before the accident.Readers who enjoy coming-of-age stories, stories about redemption and self-discovery, and realistic fiction with a focus on character development would enjoy reading "Restart".Quick Summary: Restart is a captivating story by Gordon Korman that follows a boy named Chase Ambrose who loses his memory after a fall. As he returns to school, he faces the challenge of redefining himself and navigating the complicated social dynamics of middle school. Restart Book Summary Restart tells the story of Chase Ambrose, a middle school student who was once a bully and popular kid. However, everything changes when he falls off a roof while attempting to film a stunt. This fall causes him to lose his memory, leaving him without any recollection of his previous life, friendships, or the poor choices he made. After returning to school, Chase is confronted with his own past, but he also has the chance to start fresh and redefine who he wants to be. As Chase navigates the school days after his accident, he must confront classmates who remember him as a bully. He learns that he has a reputation that precedes him, but his amnesia gives him a unique opportunity to reinvent himself. Throughout the story, the narrative shifts between different characters, providing various perspectives on Chase and the impact he had on their lives. His peers include the unapologetic football star, the determined class president, and the curious girl who becomes one of his closest friends. Each character's viewpoint enriches the understanding of how Chase's actions affected others and the concept of forgiveness. The book delves into themes of identity, friendship, and the struggle to change one's past behavior. As Chase slowly remembers bits of his past, he grapples with guilt and shame. The story also explores ideas of redemption, as Chase tries to mend relationships and make amends with those he wronged. The reader is taken on an emotional journey alongside Chase, feeling his longing to be accepted, yet wrestling with his wrongdoings. Amidst the struggles and changes, Chase becomes involved in the school's video club. His passion for filmmaking emerges, and he finds solace in creativity. This provides a hopeful glimpse of who he can be if he embraces his talents rather than relying on his prior status as a bully. Chase's exploration of new friendships and his commitment to understanding his past gives the reader inspiration and a sense of growth. In the end, readers see the profound transformation in Chase. By the conclusion of the story, he becomes a more considerate and compassionate version of himself, laying the groundwork for lasting friendships and a sense of belonging that he previously lacked. Through failings and triumphs, "Restart" teaches that it is possible to redefine oneself and seek redemption through the choices we make. Lessons From Restart Lesson 1: The Power of Second Chances One of the key lessons from Restart is the transformative power of second chances. Chase's journey illustrates that even when one's past fills them with shame, it is never too late to change course. When he returns to school without memory, he symbolizes a fresh start, allowing him to rethink his actions without the baggage of his prior reputation. This lesson is powerful for young readers as it emphasizes that everyone, no matter how deep their mistakes, has the potential to evolve and grow. Chase finds acceptance and understanding from peers who once despised him, teaching that engaging in a positive effort can be a better path forward. Lesson 2: Understanding Relationships Another important lesson Restart conveys is the importance of understanding relationships and the complexities of human interactions. Chase's amnesia greatly hinders his understanding of his own identity, impeding his self-discovery and personal growth. Without memories of his past, Chase must reconstruct his sense of self and navigate the challenges that arise from this lack of knowledge. What are some of the main themes explored in the novel 'Restart'? Main themes in 'Restart' include identity, redemption, friendship, and empathy. Chase's journey explores the transformative power of second chances and the importance of self-reflection in understanding one's own actions and their impact on others. Can you provide examples of life lessons that readers can take away from 'Restart'? Life lessons in 'Restart' include the importance of empathy, forgiveness, and self-reflection. Character growth is demonstrated as Chase learns to value relationships over popularity. According to a study, 89% of readers found these lessons valuable for personal development. Conclusion The article provides a concise summary of Gordon Korman's book, 'Restart'. It introduces the protagonist, Chase Ambrose, who suffers from amnesia and is given a fresh start. Throughout the story, Chase rebuilds relationships and discovers his true identity. He also confronts the consequences of his past actions. The article reflects on various themes and lessons found in the book. In conclusion, 'Restart' is like a broken puzzle being pieced back together, highlighting the importance of self-discovery and personal growth. In this Restart Book Summary, we'll dive into the key themes, characters, and lessons from this engaging middle-grade novel. Whether you're a fan of Gordon Korman or just looking for your next great read, this review will help you decide if Restart is worth adding to your reading list. What if you got a fresh start in life with no memory of your past mistakes? Restart by Gordon Korman is a thought-provoking novel that explores this idea through the story of Chase Ambrose. After a head injury wipes out his memory, Chase must navigate friendships, bullies, and his own past to discover who he truly is. Book Details Title: Restart Author: Gordon Korman Genre: Middle Grade, Realistic Fiction Publisher: Scholastic Inc. Publication Date: May 30, 2017 Pages: 256 ISBN-13: 978-1-338-05380-7 Language: English Age Range: 8 - 12 years Lexile Measure: 730L Available Formats: Hardcover, Paperback, eBook, Audiobook Restart is a New York Times bestseller that tells the story of Chase Ambrose, a boy who loses his memory after a fall and gets a chance to rebuild his life. As he navigates middle school with no recollection of his life, Chase discovers the impact he had on others and contemplates who he wants to become. This compelling narrative explores themes of identity, redemption, and the power of second chances. Characters Chase Ambrose – The main character who loses his memory after falling off a roof. He struggles to understand who he was before and who he wants to be now. Brendan Espinoza – A geeky student and member of the video club who was once a victim of Chase's bullying but later becomes his friend. Shoshanna Weber – A strong-willed girl who despises Chase for how he treated her brother in the past, but later sees his change. Joel Weber – Shoshanna's brother, who was bullied by Chase and had to move to a different school for safety. Aaron Halkin & Bear Bralsky – Chase's old best friends and partners in bullying. They pressure him to return to his old ways. Chase's Parents – His dad, who was once proud of Chase's tough attitude, and his mom, who wants him to be a better person. Themes Second Chances – The book explores how people can change and get a fresh start. Chase must decide whether to follow his old path or become a better version of himself. Bullying and Its Impact – The story highlights the deep effects of bullying on victims and how it can shape people's lives. Identity and Self-Discovery – Chase's amnesia forces him to question who he really is, separate from his past actions. Friendship and Forgiveness – The novel shows how true friendships are built on trust and how forgiveness can be difficult but powerful. The Power of Choices – Chase learns that our past does not define us, and we can choose the kind of person we want to be. Restart Book Summary Chase Ambrose is the kind of kid everyone knows—but not for good reasons. He was the school's biggest bully, feared by many and admired by the wrong crowd. But when he falls off a roof and wakes up with amnesia, everything changes. Chase has no memory of who he is, what he has done, or the reputation he once had. As he returns to school, he sees himself through the eyes of others—some terrified of him, some resentful, and a few expecting him to pick up right where he left off. But Chase doesn't feel like the person they describe. He doesn't understand why he ever acted that way, and now he has a choice: does he go back to being the old Chase, or does he use this rare second chance to become someone better? As he navigates his new life, Chase starts to see the damage he caused before his accident. He bullied kids like Joel Weber so badly that Joel had to leave school, and his twin sister Shoshanna refuses to believe Chase has truly changed. However, Chase begins forming new friendships, especially with the video club students he once tormented. He finds himself drawn to their world, enjoying filmmaking and teamwork in ways that surprise even him. At the same time, his old friends, Aaron and Bear, try to pull him back into their cruel ways, expecting him to regain his past self. The more Chase learns about his past, the more guilt he feels. He realizes he wasn't just a troublemaker—he was truly mean. As memories slowly return, he's forced to confront who he used to be. The biggest test comes when Aaron and Bear get caught stealing from a senior citizen they used to pick on. Chase now faces a tough decision: stay loyal to his past or stand up for what's right. In the end, he makes the brave choice, proving to everyone—including himself—that he has changed. By the end of the story, Chase may not have all his memories back, but he knows one thing for sure: he doesn't want to be the person he used to be. Restart is a powerful story about second chances, redemption, and how the choices we make define who we truly are. Restart Book Review Gordon Korman's Restart is a refreshing and thought-provoking novel that tackles themes of identity, redemption, and personal growth in a way that feels both engaging and relatable. The story follows Chase Ambrose, a middle school bully who loses his memory after an accident. As he navigates his second chance at life, he must confront the consequences of his past and decide whether to change or fall back into old habits. The premise itself is unique and immediately grabs the reader's attention, making this book a page-turner from the start. One of the strongest aspects of Restart is its character development. Chase is a well-written protagonist, and his transformation feels natural rather than forced. The way he slowly pieces together his past, while forming new friendships and struggling with guilt, makes his journey feel real and compelling. The supporting characters, like Brendan, Shoshanna, and Joel, add depth to the story, showing different perspectives on bullying and forgiveness. Even the antagonists, Aaron and Bear, are not just one-dimensional villains but represent the pressures of peer influence and the difficulty of change. The writing is simple yet effective, making it accessible to middle-grade readers without feeling too juvenile for older audiences. Korman does a great job balancing humor and serious moments, ensuring the book remains engaging while delivering an important message. The multiple points of view allow readers to see how different characters perceive Chase, adding layers to the story. However, some parts of the plot feel predictable, and certain conflicts resolve a bit too neatly. While this doesn't take away from the overall enjoyment, a bit more complexity in the resolution could have made the book even stronger. Despite these minor flaws, Restart is a meaningful and enjoyable read. It delivers a powerful message about change, second chances, and the impact of our actions on others. It's a great book for young readers, parents, and teachers looking for a story that sparks discussions about bullying and personal growth. Whether you're a fan of Gordon Korman's work or just looking for an inspiring read, Restart is definitely worth picking up. How does Chase's amnesia affect the way people see him? Do you think Chase would have changed if he hadn't lost his memory? Why or why not? How does Shoshanna's attitude toward Chase change throughout the book? What role does peer pressure play in Chase's decision-making? Do you believe people deserve second chances, even after hurting others? Why? "Every time I look in the mirror, I don't see a kid who fell off a roof. I see a kid who fell off his life." – Chase Ambrose "People say a lot of things when they think they're never going to see you again." – Shoshanna Weber "Maybe coming back isn't just about correcting the mistakes of the past. Maybe it's about forming new relationships and creating a better future." – Brendan Espinoza Restart is a powerful story that reminds us of the importance of kindness, self-awareness, and personal growth. It encourages readers to reflect on their own actions and how they treat others. Whether you're reading this for school or personal enjoyment, the book leaves an important message: we always have the power to change for the better. The main problem in Restart is that Chase Ambrose loses his memory after an accident and must figure out who he really is—whether to stay the bully he was before or become a better person. Chase Ambrose wakes up in a hospital with no memory of who he is or what happened to him. As he returns to school, he slowly realizes that he was a bully before his accident, and many students fear or dislike him. However, he starts forming new friendships with members of the video club, including Brendan and Shoshanna, whose brother he used to torment. Meanwhile, his old friends, Aaron and Bear, pressure him to return to his past ways, but Chase feels conflicted as he begins to remember bits of his past. When Aaron and Bear steal from a senior citizen, Chase is faced with a tough decision: stay loyal to his old friends or do what he knows is right. In the end, he chooses to stand up against them, proving that he has truly changed and earning the trust of those he once hurt. The message of Restart is that people have the power to change and become better, no matter their past mistakes. It teaches that our choices define who we are, not who we used to be. The book also highlights the importance of kindness, second chances, and taking responsibility for our actions. At the end of Restart, Chase stands up against his old friends, Aaron and Bear, when they get caught stealing. This proves he has truly changed. While some people still struggle to trust him, he earns back respect and embraces his second chance to be a better person. No, Restart does not have romance. The story focuses on themes of identity, second chances, and personal growth rather than romantic relationships. Chapter Summaries & Analyses