

# Lamont Books Standing Order

April 2014

*Secondary Fiction*

## Side Effects May Vary

By Julie Murphy

Publisher: Penguin

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\$17.99

*Blurb:*

What if you'd been living your life as if you were dying - only to find out that you had your whole future ahead of you? When Alice is diagnosed with leukaemia and time is suddenly not a luxury, she convinces her friend Harvey to help her with a crazy bucket list. It's as much about revenge as redemption and, warped or not, it gives Alice the focus she needs when everything else seems pointless. Then she goes into remission. Now faced with the consequences of her actions, can Alice repair the damage she's caused to those around her? And maybe, just maybe, show the one who loves her most how much she loves him in return?



*Lamont Review:*

I have read many books in recent years facing the difficult subject of teen cancer and this one does it really well, although somewhat differently.

When Alice is diagnosed with leukaemia and the prognosis is not good, she turns to Harvey, her life long family friend (but never boyfriend), to help her complete her often nasty bucket list.

Harvey would do anything for Alice as he is an amazing person who has always had a huge crush on her. With an end date in sight, they are both happy to squeeze as much as they can out of life.

But when the word 'remission' unexpectedly comes into play, Alice's plans are thrown into turmoil.

Was she only using Harvey? Is she ready to spend her life - which might now be long and normal - with him?

Interesting questions, posed in dramatic style, this is a wonderful book that will have all fans of *The Fault In Our Stars* in raptures.

*Reviewed by Rob*