

The background features a complex network of white nodes and lines, resembling a constellation or a data network. The nodes are of varying sizes and are connected by thin white lines. The overall color scheme is a gradient from dark purple at the top to bright pink at the bottom. The text is centered and white.

# The Nine

Written by Jeanne McWilliams Blasberg

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Published by sangstrading

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# The Nine

By Jeanne McWilliams Blasberg

## The Nines Portland

Hannah Webber fears she will never be a mother, but her prayers are finally answered when she gives birth to a son. In an era of high-stakes parenting, nurturing Sam's intellect becomes Hannah's life purpose. She invests body and soul into his development, much to the detriment of her marriage. She convinces herself, however, that Sam's acceptance at age fourteen to the most prestigious of New England boarding schools overseen by an illustrious headmaster, justifies her choices.

## The Nines Hotel Portland

When he arrives at Dunning, Sam is glad to be out from under his mother's close watch. And he enjoys his newfound freedom—until, late one night, he stumbles upon evidence of sexual misconduct at the school and is unable to shake the discovery.

The Nine

## The Nine Club

Both a coming-of-age novel and a portrait of an evolving mother-son relationship, *The Nine* is the story of a young man who chooses to expose a corrupt world operating under its own set of rules—even if it means jeopardizing his mother's hopes and dreams.

Hannah Webber cherishes her only son. She becomes consumed with making sure Sam gets everything he needs, even if it means harming her marriage in the process.

Sam is accepted to a high ranked boarding school, Dunning, and Hannah feels all her hard work and sacrifice has been worth it.

Sam loves the freedom of boarding school and spreads his wings out from under his mother's watchful eye. In doing so, he finds out about something sinister at the school involving sexual misconduct, and he doesn't turn the other way.

Sam is accepted to a high ranked boarding school, Dunning, and Hannah feels all her hard work and sacrifice has been worth it.

Sam loves the freedom of boarding school and spreads his wings out from under his mother's watchful eye. In doing so, he finds out about something sinister at the school involving sexual misconduct, and he doesn't turn the other way.

*The Nine* is such a special rendering of the mother-son relationship. I've not read many books focusing on this specific dynamic. It's also about Sam coming-of-age and standing up for what's right, even if he could lose something precious in the process.

Overall, *The Nine* is a beautifully-written powerful read with complex characters. Hannah wasn't always easy to like, but she was always easy to understand as a mother looking out for her son.

I received a complimentary copy. All opinions are my own.

My reviews can also be found on my blog: [www.jennifertarheelreader.com](http://www.jennifertarheelreader.com) ...more

## The Nines

Jeanne McWilliams Blasberg has written a compulsive and raw story about The darker side of parenthood. Parenting is the best, most rewarding, toughest, and least appreciated job you will ever have. This book really zooms in on the mother son bond as well as the fallout of helicopter parenting. As a mother of two boys and a girl, I do admit there is a different bond that you share with your boys then you do with your girls. I am not going to say it's better or worse it's just kind of different, Jeanne McWilliams Blasberg has written a compulsive and raw story about The darker side of parenthood. Parenting is the best, most rewarding, toughest, and least appreciated job you will ever have. This book really zooms in on the mother son bond as well as the fallout of helicopter parenting. As a mother of two boys and a girl, I do admit there is a different bond that you share with your boys then you do with your girls. I am not going to say it's better or worse it's just kind of different, a boy tugs at your heart strings in a special way. I found Hannah the mother in this book to be a relatable and sympathetic character, even if I did not always agree with her actions. I could also sympathize with Sam, because it would be rough to have a helicopter parent. Having said that though, it is hard to know when to step in and when to step away.

Hannah struggled to become a mother, so when it finally happened she gave her everything to her son. Her ferocious devotion to her boy ultimately destroyed her marriage and led to her son pulling away. But it was all worth it, because Hannah got Sam into an elite prep school A definite springboard to the Ivy League. The problem is the school is much more sinister and much less safe than Hannah thought. Sam soon finds himself confronting issues of bullying, drugs, and sexual abuse. And Hannah realizes she cannot control everything in her son's life and protect him forever. A dark somewhat disturbing story that really makes you think about parenting, the teenage years, and social acceptance. Well told taut and tense, a definite must for the TBR!

\*\*\* Big thanks to the publisher for my copy of this book \*\*\* ...more

Review to follow for blog tour...

The Nine

## The Nine Trey Bloods

As a mom of a 10 and 7 year old, I could deeply relate to this story of the nurturing relationship it takes to be a parent in today's world. While I don't think of myself as a "hover mom" like main character Hannah, I can see why she felt the need to be involved so deeply with her fourteen year old son's private school life. With topics of bullying, sex, drugs, and the peer pressures of today's teens.

â•• â•• â•• â•• /5 stars!

\*Thank you to SuzyApprovedBookTours for this gifted copy in exchange for an honest review. As a mom of a 10 and 7 year old, I could deeply relate to this story of the nurturing relationship it takes to be a parent in today's world. While I don't think of myself as a "hover mom" like main character Hannah, I can see why she felt the need to be involved so deeply with her fourteen year old son's private school life. With topics of bullying, sex, drugs, and the peer pressures of today's teens.

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Hannah Webber is a helicopter mother that goes over the top wanting the best of everything for her son Sam. It causes great conflict between her and her husband. When Sam gets accepted to an elite New England boarding school, Hannah couldn't be more happy. Sam is happy to be out from under his mother's wing but finds it very difficult to fit in. That is until he gets invited in with a group of boys. When Sam discover the dark happenings and evidence of sexual misconduct he sets out to expose all the corruption and his life starts to spiral. This is the second book I loved by this author. The writing is compelling and the plot and twist are tense. This novels is very right now with all the headlines of ages old corruption at prep schools and universities. I couldn't help but feel for Hannah, a mother who just wanted the best for her son. A powerful drama. I highly recommend this for book clubs.

Dawnny-BookGypsy

Novels N Latte

Hudson Valley NY ...more

# The Nine Lives Of Chloe King

There is A LOT of pressure that teenagers face these days.

And having a helicopter mom like Hannah Webber...? Not exactly helping the situation!

Hannah hovers. Like, a lot. She is willing to do whatever it takes to make sure Sam is at the top of everyone's list, and has every opportunity he deserves - including getting into the prestigious Dunning School. Even if she has to sacrifice her own life and possibly even her marriage.

And when her only child is accepted to the prestigious private high sch There is A LOT of pressure that teenagers face these days.

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And when her only child is accepted to the prestigious private high school, of course she will do everything in her power to make sure he is accepted in the community and thrives within it, but she also attends every single function - no matter how small.

Sam does begin to thrive away from his mother's constant hovering, but when he gets wrapped up in some pretty scandalous secrets at the school, he finds that he will finally have to make his own decisions and do what is right, because his mother may not be able to help him this time.

This was a really complex and interesting read. The private school life is pretty foreign to me, and also fascinating. As is the mother and son relationship, - but this one clearly shows just how strong and unbreakable a mother's love can be.

The writing was really fantastic - and I look forward to reading more from Jeanne!

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The Nine

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5 stars!

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## The Nine Titans

inda's Book Obsession Reviews "The Nine" by Jeanne McWilliams Blasberg, She Writes Press, August 20, 2019 part of Suzy Approved Book Tours

Jeanne McWilliams Blasberg, Author of "The Nine" has written an intense, captivating, intriguing, thought-provoking, and emotional novel. The Genres for this Novel are Fiction, and Contemporary Fiction, with Suspense. The timeline for this story takes place mostly in the present and goes to the past when it pertains to the characters or events in the story. T inda's Book Obsession Reviews "The Nine" by Jeanne McWilliams Blasberg, She Writes Press, August 20, 2019 part of Suzy Approved Book Tours

Jeanne McWilliams Blasberg, Author of "The Nine" has written an intense, captivating, intriguing, thought-provoking, and emotional novel. The Genres for this Novel are Fiction, and Contemporary Fiction, with Suspense. The timeline for this story takes place mostly in the present and goes to the past when it pertains to the characters or events in the story. The author describes her dramatic characters, as complex, complicated, each having their own set of problems.

Hannah Webber is an obsessed mother, who wants only the best for her son. Hannah and her husband are at odds what might be best for Sam. When the opportunity arises, Hannah decides that Sam should go to an elite and prestigious high school. Dunning is a boarding school with a specific set of rules. Hannah wants to be involved in her son's life.

Sam's adjustment to Dunning is difficult. The younger students are treated much differently by the other students and there is peer pressure. It seems that there are secrets. Sam feels very alone and thinks his way of belonging will be by "entering a side door". Sam discovers some disturbing evidence of inappropriate things that are going on. This is also a coming of age book, and Sam has to think of where his loyalties are. There is a tremendous amount of pressure and betrayals.

I love the way the author discusses the important issues in contemporary society today. Bullying, drugs, sex, peer-pressure are some of the topics discussed. A mother-son relationship is explored. The author also mentions the importance of family, trust, emotional support, communication, love, and hope.

I would highly recommend this thought-provoking novel. Happy Reading! ...more

Originally published on The Nerd Daily | Review by Marla Warren

Sometimes the universe puts the book into your hand that you are supposed to read. The Nine is probably not a book I would have picked up to read, but with its themes of parenting, letting go, letting a child turn into an adult, and then begin a life of their own, as well as the ever-changing status of all of our relationships if we don't nurture them appropriately, this started to hit very close to home. As a

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Sometimes the universe puts the book into your hand that you are supposed to read. *The Nine* is probably not a book I would have picked up to read, but with its themes of parenting, letting go, letting a child turn into an adult, and then begin a life of their own, as well as the ever-changing status of all of our relationships if we don't nurture them appropriately, this started to hit very close to home. As a parent of a senior in high school who will soon be facing similar circumstances to Hannah Webber in *The Nine*, I can honestly say I felt this book in my soul.

Our main character is Sam, and this story covers his life roughly from age 14 to age 18 as he has started high school at an elite boarding school in New England. Our primary narrative is what Sam experiences at school, but we also follow his mother Hannah (described as a "helicopter mom") as she deals with her son's absence and her crumbling marriage. As readers, we don't often get the "helicopter mom's" point of view. She is often talked about, rather than being the one telling us her thoughts and feelings, so this was a terrific change from what we so often see. It is a testament to the writer's skill how easy it is switching back and forth between the parallel stories being told.

Stark contrasts are drawn throughout the book between different types of groups. There are the legacies versus other students "those students whose family members attended before them, as opposed to those new to Dunning Academy. There is tension between how the athletes are treated versus how the academic students are treated. Year One students (Freshmen) are treated differently than Year Four (Seniors), as described by Sam as he goes through each year. There is even conflict between those adults whose paychecks are wrapped up in school politics versus those who work at the school simply because they live nearby.

All of this conflict leads to a constant feeling of distrust that may, or may not, be partly by the design of the administration. Even as the reader, those feelings of not knowing who to trust keep you tuned in to how each character responds to the others. As a student, Sam deals with not knowing who he can really trust, his mother Hannah also deals with it, as does new teacher Shawn Willis. We follow all these characters, rooting for them to make the right decisions, but not even knowing ourselves whether or not these are the "good guys."

*The Nine* is one of those novels that different people can read and get something totally different out of. My feelings about my own child going away to school soon gave me one perspective, but someone reading it who is closer to Sam's age would likely have a completely different emotional response to the book. A new teacher might see everything in yet another way.

There was a moment near the end where I started to worry about how things were going to turn out. I am not someone who wants an unearned happy ending, but I don't want an unhappy (or unfair) ending just for the sake of being melancholy. I believe the ending works. For everything we go through with these characters, their ups and their downs, the ending feels just.

## The Nine

I have seen suggestions of this book for fans of Dead Poets Society by N.H. Kleinbaum, The Secret History by Donna Tartt, and A Separate Peace by John Knowles, and I have to agree. This book feels very much from the same vein as those classics. It both tells the story of Sam and how his life has changed as he has grown, as well as one of the best descriptions in literature of a mother's changing relationship with her husband, her son, and herself. ...more

## The Nines Movie

Every good mother wants to love and protect her children, but how far is too far to go when it comes to looking after them? Hannah Weber is teetering on that thin line already when she helps her son get into the area's most prestigious boarding school, but when Sam gets into trouble away from home, she stretches her remote meddling skills to a whole new level. If she doesn't find a way to make everything right for her baby, her Ivy League dreams may be dashed before applications are even submitted.

In *The Nine* (She Writes Press), Jeanne McWilliams Blasberg weaves strands of the story from Hannah's perspective with equal parts from a third-person point of view with Sam or his dorm supervisor, Shawn, functioning as central characters. This artistic choice offers readers the most complete look possible into the curious events occurring at Dunning Academy. Blasberg has a knack for pulling readers in so close that they can share Hannah's humiliation as she is belittled by wealthier parents and Sam's adrenaline rush as he pushes himself to fit in with the other students. The fast pace of the narration, suspense, and well-timed revelation of new information work together to keep readers wanting more until the very last page.

The rest of the review: <https://booktrib.com/2019/08/prep-are...> ...more

It's a fabulous coming of age novel with a touch of suspense. The story centers around helicopter Mom, Hannah sending her son, Sam to an elite boarding school. When Sam witness an illicit act he has to decide if he will follow the pack or stand up for what's right. I had so much fun with this book. I wanted to know what Sam would do and how Hannah would handle it. I flew through this book in one sitting.

I don't have kids so I am not sure how I would be. Not sure if I would be a helicopter Mom or hands off. It's a fabulous coming of age novel with a touch of suspense. The story centers around helicopter Mom, Hannah sending her son, Sam to an elite boarding school. When Sam witness an illicit act he has to decide if he will follow the pack or stand up for what's right. I had so much fun with this book. I wanted to know what Sam would do and how Hannah would handle it. I flew through this book in one sitting.

I don't have kids so I am not sure how I would be. Not sure if I would be a helicopter Mom or hands off. I can understand why Hannah hovered. She had a hard time having Sam and when she did she just wanted him to have the best of the world.

The Nine

Pick up this book if you like family dynamics. Pick it up if you like elite, privileged children behaving badly. Pick up this book if you like a fun quick read. ...more

The Nine

## The Nine Realms

The Nine is a compelling, thought-provoking and timely story that revolves around Sam, a high schooler at an elite boarding school, and his mother, Hannah, whose ambitions for her son consume her. Sam has a hard time fitting in with his classmates, until he is invited to join a secret, power-wielding group of boys at his school. Hannah is a helicopter parent, anxious for her son to excel, fulfilling her dream for him to attend an Ivy League School. When Sam uncovers evidence of illicit activity

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Huge thank you to the author and SheWritesPress for sending me an advanced readers copy of The Nine and it's matching tote to go with it #backtoschool19 - I haven't stopped using it since and read this book in two days.

With that said, not only was I hooked by the story-line but also because it is New England based like myself. This book had you constantly on the edge of your seat and made me fly through each chapter to find out more about Dunning and what has just been discovered...

Quick Recap:

Huge thank you to the author and SheWritesPress for sending me an advanced readers copy of The Nine and it's matching tote to go with it #backtoschool19 - I haven't stopped using it since and read this book in two days.

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Quick Recap:

Hannah Webber is the Mother of Sam Webber who attends New England's most prestigious boarding school called Dunning. Sam is glad to be out of the watchful eye and constant observation to do the best and be the best by his mother Hannah. Soon rather than later Sam befriends Justin Crandle and gets asked to be apart of a secret organized group of men that has been passed down generations throughout numerous decades of Dunning, called The Nine.

When Sam accepts the offer and keeps to himself while his introduction to The Nine, he soon realizes

## The Nine

the hidden truths of the current Headmaster as well as the previous Headmaster.

While gaining more freedom from the constant observation of his Mother Hannah, the Crandle family takes him in for the summer where Sam then becomes close to Justin's, Uncle Henry and becomes apart of something greater than The Nine ever were...

Sam's understood version of The Nine was all fun and games, such as pranks they pulled off every year in tradition to the secret organization.

While returning back to Dunning in the fall, Sam immediately understood after spending the summer with Henry Crandle that he had a much grander plan for him after all this year and wasn't going to rest until it was completed.

Throughout the remainder of Sam's Junior year, his parents were struggling with their marriage along with the means to provide for his family.

Along the way of that, Hannah Webber befriends there dormitory, Shawn for guidance on Sam's recent behaviors and academic fall out.

Which resulted in leaning closer to the truth about what Henery Crandle's plans were for Headmaster Williams.

Back to review:

Like I said, highly suspenseful throughout each chapter!!

I have to say, Hannah Webber was not my favorite character but she overall made this book.

With her constant observation of her son and failing marriage, she made this book interesting and fun to read. Her son Sam also seemed to accept her behavior pretty well and really made me have an understanding of his relationship with his Mother.

Overall, I really enjoyed reading The Nine and thought the storyline was solid and well put together.

The ending did leave me hanging a little bit, to be honest. And that's why it got a 4/5 for me. I felt like leading up to the ending gave me so much hope for a conclusion that just wasn't there...

I've been so excited to share this with my followers on Instagram as well as my fellow BookSharks. And hope everyone gets a chance to read and be apart of the Dunning boarding school drama like I have because it's been a lot of fun!

Thank you again for the arc - I can't wait for its release date this August!! ...more

The Nine

## The Nine Lives Of Christmas

I received this for honest Review.

This is the first time reading anything from this author. I'm so grateful that I got the opportunity to review her book cuz its so good. I'm giving this a big big super 5 stars ⭐️⭐️⭐️⭐️⭐️

This book talk about the struggle of being a parent and how to handle your kid when they need you the most. Even though it fiction it talk about drugs, abuse, sexual abuse, bully, school, and being parent. This was a eye opening cuz nomatter what school you put your child into you ha I received this for honest Review.

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Me has a mom of 5 children I taught my kids not to let nobody touch them. To go to adult or anybody. Just tell somebody! I have dealt with kids bullying my kids. I took it to the teachers, the principal, and even the Police.

When something is happening or you think something is happening you do everything in your power to do everything.

The storyline was very good!

The theme and setting was well put together. The characters was well put together in the story.

Was so well put in the story.

Everything all in one book.

It was just perfect!

I highly recommend everybody get this and read it.

What a great read! This had me hooked from the beginning. What a Rollercoaster! The sitting, theme, and the Characters had me pulled so in. Everything was well put together and it was just perfect. This novel would have you guess and thinking all the way to the end. This novel did just that to me. To the point that am wrong. When the ending comes am on shock. I wouldn't of never believe or guess. Like OMG!

Highly recommend everybody get this book and read it. Its so good!

Can't wait for her next book.

#thenine ...more

3.5 stars

The Nine by Jeanne McWilliams Blasberg tells the story of prestigious East Coast boarding school Dunning Academy. Hannah Webber is a helicopter mom to the extreme and she frets and worries all four years her only son Sam is enrolled at Dunning. Rightfully so, as Sam ends up involved in all kinds of sinister and shady business at that school. With everything we hear about in the news these days, it

The Nine

makes you think a story like this probably isn't that much of a stretch.

As I read this book 3.5 stars

The Nine by Jeanne McWilliams Blasberg tells the story of prestigious East Coast boarding school Dunning Academy. Hannah Webber is a helicopter mom to the extreme and she frets and worries all four years her only son Sam is enrolled at Dunning. Rightfully so, as Sam ends up involved in all kinds of sinister and shady business at that school. With everything we hear about in the news these days, it makes you think a story like this probably isn't that much of a stretch.

As I read this book, I had several thoughts running through my mind. Hannah is, at times, very unlikeable, as she desperately tries to maintain not only a relationship with her son but control over every decision he makes. Despite that, I, as a mother, found myself still relating to her. While most of us aren't obsessed with every move our children make, opting instead to grant them independence as they grow, we all, at the very heart of it, want the very best for our kids. I know I relish that feeling of pride when my children are successful at something. Hannah was constantly in search of that. Sam was no doubt shaped by that pressure, becoming a people pleaser who had a hard time saying no, trying so hard to both fit in and succeed. Makes you think about how your actions are affecting your kids.

The Nine was an entertaining read, one that I was imagining as a movie, the boarding school drama with some twists and turns. It could be a great low key kind of thriller geared maybe toward teens?! It's not a thriller but I could see that aspect of it played up a bit. How fun would that be to see it on the big screen?? ...more