



Cleo Porter and the body electric (Oct 2020)

Author: [Burt, Jake](#)

Ages 9-12 Fiction

Description: In a future forever changed by a pandemic, a girl survives in total isolation.

Book Appeal Terms: [Definition of Appeal Terms](#)

Genre: Apocalyptic fiction; Science fiction

Themes: Pandemic apocalypse

Character: Well-developed

Tone: Thought-provoking

Min/Max Grade level: 2 - 6

Lexile: 740 **Accelerated Reader:** IL: MG, BL: 5.2, AR Pts: 9

Publishers Weekly:

Burt (Greetings from Witness Protection!) writes a humorous, humanistic sci-fi adventure set in the near future, after the outbreak of a quickly mutating flu pushed citizens into sealed apartments. From her own home, 12-year-old Cleo Porter has, with the assistance of her AI virtual instructor, been training since age six to become a remote drone surgeon like her mother. But when a mysterious package of essential medicine is improbably delivered to her unit, the family's careful plans are thrown into disarray—rather than prepare for a monumental test, Cleo assumes responsibility for getting the medicine to the rightful patient. In her effort to save a life, she escapes not only her unit but an entire massive complex of apartments and encounters ominous drones, rat-infested compost heaps, and the reality that there is much more outside her walls than the threat of disease. Through the eyes of a fierce and compassionate protagonist, Burt mixes snippets of science into the action, adding a layer of nonfiction to this entertaining, speculative look at selflessness and integrity. Ages 8–12. Agent:

Faye Bender, the Book Group. (Oct.) --Staff (Reviewed 09/28/2020) (Publishers Weekly, vol 267, issue 39, p)