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The Titan's Curse (Percy Jackson And The Olympians, Book 3)



Synopsis

When the goddess Artemis goes missing, she is believed to have been kidnapped. And now it's up to Percy and his friends to find out what happened. Who is powerful enough to kidnap a goddess? They must find Artemis before the winter solstice, when her influence on the Olympian Council could swing an important vote on the war with the titans. Not only that, but first Percy will have to solve the mystery of a rare monster that Artemis was hunting when she disappeared—a monster rumored to be so powerful it could destroy Olympus forever. Please note: While the cover of the book may vary the content is the same.

Book Information

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Age Range: 10 - 14 years

Grade Level: 5 - 9

Customer Reviews

Grade 6-9
In this installment, Riordan continues to enliven ancient mythology with wit, contemporary staging, and teenage heroics. Percy Jackson is now 14, a bit older and wiser, yet still entangled with the Fates. Friends, monsters, dysfunctional gods, and the romantic stirrings of all things natural and mythological are encountered. His good friend, if oft-time rival, Annabeth (daughter of Athena) is missing, as is Artemis, goddess of the hunt. Joined by best buddy Grover-the-goat-boy and an argumentative array of accomplices, Percy sets off to fulfill, and hopefully foil, the foreboding prophecy of the Oracle. Plagued by ominous dreams, thwarted by

hideous monsters, and challenged by conflicting partnerships, the search party's success hinges on unlikely unity. The droll pitch is teen-perfect, as when Apollo heats up the scene by arriving in his fire-red Maserati, wearing jeans, a sleeveless T-shirt, and loafers. 'Wow,' Thalia muttered, 'Apollo is hot.' 'He's the sun god,' I said. 'That's not what I meant.' Intricate prophecies and relationships are neatly braided into the adventurous plot. Teachers will cheer for Percy Jackson and the Olympians as they inspire students to embrace Greek mythology and score the ultimate Herculean challenge: getting kids to read. All in all, a winner of Olympic proportions and a surefire read-aloud. — Alison Follos, North Country School, Lake Placid, NY Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

Starred Review Just after finding Bianca and Nico, two newly discovered half-bloods, Percy, Grover, Annabeth, and Thalia end up trapped between a helicopter and a mantichore. Artemis and her Hunters save the day, but Annabeth disappears over a cliff; then Artemis rushes off to hunt a dangerous monster. Back at Camp Half-Blood, the Oracle foretells that Artemis must be rescued and makes a prediction that bodes ill for one of their number—but which one? Percy, who is supposed to remain behind while others pursue the quest, follows in a search of the missing Annabeth. Their adventures range widely across the U.S., taking them to locales that include Washington, D.C., and the deserts of the Southwest and pitting them against the usual assortment of colorful adversaries. The Percy Jackson & the Olympians series is built around a terrific idea—that the half-mortal offspring of Greek gods live among us, playing out struggles of mythic scale—and Riordan takes it from strength to strength with this exciting installment, adding even more depth to the characters and story arc while retaining its predecessors' nonstop laughs and action. Tixier Herald, Diana Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

My sons and I have been reading the series and were anxious to get to the next book. My older son already read through this ahead of me and my younger son. He loved it. My younger son and I are getting through it and also enjoying it.

Same problem as other title in this series of graphic novels. They take major liberties with the storyline. They don't quite ruin it, but some of the new bright ideas come close... I would strongly urge having the kid or adult read the regular edition first. Then this one can be just another flavor. I

am not sure how many of the changes were approved by Riordan, or forced upon him.

The premise of the series is that Greek mythology and its beasts, gods, etc. are actually real. That fact makes for a fun adventure. It's definitely an "intermediate" book. Think *Empire Strikes Back*: recap start and cliffhanger end. The plot of the series has been well contained and reminders of previous facts are conveniently sprinkled around. My 9 yo and I have read them together. We had very cool chats from it.

I haven't felt this attached to a series since *The Chronicles of Narnia*, or maybe Madeleine L'Engle's *A Wrinkle in Time* books. The Percy Jackson books are perhaps a bit less intellectual, but they make up for it with the fantastic offbeat humor of author Rick Riordan. These books are funny, and I mean the sort of funny that has the reader blurting out bits to gaping onlookers. I simply could not contain myself while reading *Titan's Curse*, and my poor husband was driven half mad with my chuckling out loud amid proclamations of "Hey, Listen to this..." Both of my young readers read the book in a single day. It's hard to put down, as the action is nonstop. There aren't any slow bits to slog through, and this volume is pretty much the equivalent of one long literary car chase; it will have your adrenaline pumping like mad. The oddball characters from the first two books in the series are back in *Titan's Curse*, along with a few new deities and a surprising band of warriors. Two new demi-gods are introduced, though their Olympian pedigree remains unclear until the book's end. One interesting tidbit revealed is Percy's discovery of a fully mortal girl at the Hoover Dam who can really see things as they are. This information wasn't obviously significant in *Titan's Curse*, so I assume it will be followed up on in the next book. I'm also getting impatient to learn who is responsible for the strange Lotus hotel in Las Vegas that Percy, Annabeth, and Grover stumbled into in book two. New friends in book three have also spent time at the Lotus. Why is someone attracting demi-gods to Las Vegas and putting them up for ages in a posh hotel? Annabeth goes missing at the beginning of *Titan's Curse*. The infamous traitor, Luke, is once again causing trouble. A cross country journey to find Annabeth has our heroes getting into all kinds of scrapes. Along the way, they learn to work as a team and maybe even appreciate each other. Riordan has done it again. *Titan's Curse* is a blast! We'll be preordering book four as soon as we can!

I really enjoy the writing style of Rick Riordan. I love that he has incorporated the old mythology into modern day, but what I think I enjoy the most is that he throws in little one liners everywhere. Just little asides that make it funny. In the *Titan's Curse*, it was fun to continue the story and not have to

worry so much about the back story of the main characters. It was also fun to meet some new characters. The DiAngelo children are complex and interesting to learn about, as are the hunters of Artemis. It's always fun to see them go to different sites in America and meet mythological creatures while there. You never know what they'll encounter next. I definitely recommend!

Readers familiar with Rick Riordan's Percy Jackson and the Olympians series are in for another fun-filled romp in *THE TITAN'S CURSE*. The author has a five-book run planned for Percy and his companions, and then a return visit in a later series, which his young fans will clamor for. If you haven't read either of the two previous books, I'd warn you to stay away from this review because you're going to find out things that are better discovered through your own reading. In *THE LIGHTNING THIEF*, twelve year old Percy Jackson found out he was the son of Poseidon, the Greek god of the sea. My son and I read YA books together all the time, and these are his favorites. What draws him in the most - and I mean HOURS at a time, till my voice gives out on me - are Percy's cool water powers and the immense tapestry of Greek mythology that Riordan weaves in so well. My son doesn't know it, but he's basically getting a classical education reading these novels with me. He finds the stories of the gods and goddesses, all their petty problems and efforts to get revenge on each other, wonderfully fascinating. He was so enthralled by the first book that I had to buy him a book on Greek mythology, which he read on his own just to get more background on the mythical characters in the pages. You don't have to brush up on your Greek mythology, or even tell all the stories to your kids. Riordan does a masterful job of making those ancient tales of gods and goddesses come alive in his stories, and giving you all the background material you need. But don't be surprised if your child starts prowling the library shelves in search of more information. *THE TITAN'S CURSE* starts off with an almost 007 feel that I really liked. Riordan usually plunks Percy down in the middle of action, but the search for two new half-bloods (sons and daughters of gods who don't know they are such) captivated my son and me immediately. And things, of course, go really badly for Percy and his friends. Still, despite all the close calls, my son and I were laughing out loud at Percy's adventures. Grover, the young satyr that's his friends, ended up getting some of the best parts, but the chapter where Percy ends up riding the mythical pig was an absolute hoot. Blackjack, Percy's Pegasus buddy, puts in an appearance in this book as well, and absolutely steals the show for a while. "God alert," Blackjack warns. "It's the wine dude!" Of course, he's referring to Dionysus, the Greek god that's currently serving punishment as head of Camp Half-Blood. In fact, Mr. D actually steps into the thick of things more forcefully in this volume. But the line, typical pre-teen terminology, had my son and I cracking each other up for days as we kept

repeating it. In every book in the series, there's always a quest. In the first book, Percy had to find the thief that took Zeus's mystical lightning bolt. In the second, Percy had to save Grover. But in the third book, Percy has to save his best bud, Annabeth, with whom he's becoming even more enamored. This quest sends Percy and his friends zooming across the United States again, and reveals even more Greek mythological geography that's been relocated to this continent. Athena is back on hand, as well as Artemis and Apollo. Luke's efforts to resurrect Kronos as still in play, and it looks bad for our heroes. There's a prophecy (told by the Oracle in a way that is extremely humorous) that foretells the death of one of the heroes on the quest. Riordan's pacing is fabulous. There's never a dull moment in one of these books. Things - and threats - just keep happening at a mile-a-minute. This book truly felt like trying to stay on top of an avalanche as we hurtled to the ending. And it only left us hungry for Book Four: THE BATTLE OF THE LABYRINTH.

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