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The Lightning Thief (Percy Jackson And The Olympians, Book 1)



Synopsis

Percy Jackson and the Olympians, Book One: Lightning Thief, The

Book Information

Age Range: 10 - 14 years

Lexile Measure: 680 (What's this?)

Series: Percy Jackson and the Olympians (Book 1)

Paperback: 416 pages

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Customer Reviews

Book Description Percy Jackson is about to be kicked out of boarding school...again. And that's the least of his troubles. Lately, mythological monsters and the gods of Mount Olympus seem to be walking straight out of the pages of Percy's Greek mythology textbook and into his life. And worse, he's angered a few of them. Zeus's master lightning bolt has been stolen, and Percy is the prime suspect. Now Percy and his friends have just ten days to find and return Zeus's stolen property and bring peace to a warring Mount Olympus. But to succeed on his quest, Percy will have to do more than catch the true thief: he must come to terms with the father who abandoned him; solve the riddle of the Oracle, which warns him of betrayal by a friend; and unravel a treachery more powerful than the gods themselves. This first installment of Rick Riordan's best-selling series is a non-stop thrill-ride and a classic of mythic proportions.

Starred Review. Grade 5-9 *—An adventure-quest with a hip edge. At first glance, Perseus Jackson seems like a loser (readers meet him at a boarding school for troubled youth), but he's really the son of Poseidon and a mortal woman. As he discovers his heritage, he also loses that*

mother and falls into mortal danger. The gods (still very active in the 21st-century world) are about to go to war over a lost thunderbolt, so Percy and sidekicks Grover (a young satyr) and Annabeth (daughter of Athena) set out to retrieve it. Many close calls and monster-attacks later, they enter Hades's realm (via L.A.). A virtuoso description of the Underworld is matched by a later account of Olympus (hovering 600 floors above Manhattan). There's lots of zippy review of Greek myth and legend, and characters like Medusa, Procrustes, Charon, and the Eumenides get updates. Some of the Labors of Heracles or Odysseus's adventures are recycled, but nothing seems stale, and the breakneck pace keeps the action from being too predictable. Percy is an ADHD, wise-cracking, first-person narrator. Naturally, his real quest is for his own identity. Along the way, such topics as family, trust, war, the environment, dreams, and perceptions are raised. There is subtle social critique for sophisticated readers who can see it. Although the novel ends with a satisfying conclusion (and at least one surprise), it is clear that the story isn't over. The 12-year-old has matured and is ready for another quest, and the villain is at large. Readers will be eager to follow the young protagonist's next move.

Patricia D. Lothrop, St. George's School, Newport, RI
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Wow. Just take a second and think of the best book you've ever read. Was it different to all other books you've ever read, was it vivid or exciting or did you feel like you were there witnessing what the author wrote about? Did the plot take a new direction every time you thought you knew what was going to happen? Anyway, just imagine writing one of those books. Impossible right? So appreciate what this author has written about because it has to be a favourite book of many people as it holds all the qualities you look for in a good book. This book weaves Greek mythology into modern life. I would recommend this book for around 10 years up. It contains a bit of sword fighting and some difficult words. I didn't feel like it was a definite 5 star book but I would give it a good 4 and a half. Unfortunately you can only give an exact rate. Thanks for reading this.

I am a Fangirl. I have been obsessed with the this series for about a year and 3 months now. I can honestly say that these books changed my life. I have a better outlook. If you want a book that will make you squeal with anticipation, feel for the characters, and make you fall in love, then you should definitely read this. And continue with the rest of the series as well. Percabeth (Annabeth and Percy's ship/couple name) has taken hold on you, no matter how you try and deny it. The book brings out the best and worst in you, making you so undeniably human that it is almost funny. You

will laugh, feel, and smile along with the trio in this fantastic work of art. Not fiction. Art. The stories may be made up, but you know what? The emotions are real. I have struggled with self esteem and fitting in in my past. These books helped me realize that everyone has good and bad in them. The characters, as sad as it may seem, have become my closest friends. If you are a parent trying to find a good fit for you child, as long as they are at least 11 this is a great idea. I learned the magic of friendship, hope, believing in myself. I also learned hard lessons like; not trusting everyone entirely, death, fear, and even abuse, in a fun and safe environment. There was no swearing which is something hard to find these days. I am I love with these books, and I hope that soon you'll join me. Look, I really, really want to be a demigod.

Don't judge this book by the movie. This book is fantastic. When I was younger I loved Greek Mythology. I read all the myths I could and owned several books on the subject. The crazy thing about this book is I can totally see Percy Jackson taking place in one of my old books. It is essentially a modern day Greek Myth. Its full of God's and Monsters and Heroes all wrapped up in an awesome and fun story filled with great characters. The best part is that this is just the first book. There are five books in the Percy Jackson and the Olympians, Five more in the sequel series The Heroes of Olympus, three more in the Kane Chronicles which are the Egyptian counterparts, three short stories that combine the Percy Jackson characters with the Kane Chronicles characters, one book so far in the Magnus Chase series which is the Norse Counterpart with another one coming out later this year. And coming soon a new series that's another sequel to The Heroes of Olympus. All of his stories build on each other and they all start here. Definitely worth reading.

Never a dull moment. Percy Jackson is a strong willed godling who takes on more than he can chew with the fear of uncertainty but the courage of optimism. The book was adventurous and a thrill to read as these kids make their way to uncover the truth. Truly a great book to read whether you're a kid or an adult.

I enjoyed the book "The Lightning Thief (Percy Jackson and the Olympians)" very much. Even though I saw the movie first, I can agree that the book was more intriguing. The movie made up a lot of the events and left out many of the characters. Though the movie was still good, I preferred the book for the following reasons: 1. There were more characteristics of the characters. This, I liked because, it allows more feelings and helps you to visualize them. 2. The events were clearer. Though there were many unexpected events, they were all necessary. One thing led to the next,

and it all flows easily.³ The characters were thought out better. Take Annabeth for example. In the movie, Annabeth was (in the beginning) a tough, hard to get, warrior. Then, after she got beat by Percy, she started softening saying "she had feelings for him". According to what I read, Annabeth had liked Luke, and she was rough to Percy even if he was injured, hurt, sad, etc. The book had followed what her original personality was. The movie was less focused on that development of character.⁴ The ending was more mysterious. In the book, you kind of expected Percy to stay at Camp Half-Blood, but in the last page, he decided to leave and go to his mom. Again, in the movie, most as made up. It ended with him and Annabeth sword fighting (and again, Annabeth was easy with him) at Camp Half-Blood. The book was more mysterious because you didn't know what might happen to him next. There are many smaller, more specific reasons for liking the book better. These are just bigger examples that spread throughout the book. I think that the book was well-thought out and over all, spontaneous.

every one kept telling me to read the series. I am so glad I did! I have always loved myths on the Greek Gods and Goddess! the only thing I feel they did wrong with Medusa's tale. I know in some story's she's the sea god's girlfriend.. but in MOST tales she was rapped by him in Athena's temple. but I can see how little kids shouldn't get that side of the tale. still it'd be nice if they kept it a true tale. but besides that it was awesome! I was totally lost in the world of Percy, and I can't wait to collect all of the books!

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