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The red pyramid book review

Rick Riordan, Red Pyramid, theThe two main protagonists in this book are Carter Kane and his younger sister Sadie. They don't exactly have normal lives, Carter travels the world with his Egyptologist dad, while Sadie has lived in London with her grandparents ever since her mum died mysteriously at Cleopatra's Needle. On their annual Christmas reunion, things change forever when their dad blows up the Rosetta Stone and disappears! The children are thrown into a world of Ancient Egyptian magic, talking baboons, mysterious magicians, and evil gods. They hurtle from one exotic location to another using various forms of magical transport and portals. As their quest to discover what has happened to their father progresses, they discover that they are descendants from an ancient lineage dating back to the first Ancient Egyptian magicians. This is a fast-paced adventure without a single dull moment; the author has done a brilliant job of packing in masses of facts about Ancient Egypt and combining them into a wonderfully exciting story. As well as all the action, the story is also about sacrificing your happiness for the greater good and the author cleverly shows you how Carter and Sadie's relationship changes as they help each other fend off danger. I give this book 9/10 because it kept me entertained the whole way through. I can't wait to read the next book in the Kane Chronicles series! Buy this book at the Guardian Bookshop. Want to tell the world about a book you've read? Join the site and send us your review! The parents' guide to what's in this book. Stands out for . Drinking, Drugs & Smoking Not present Parents need to know that this series is by Rick Riordan, author of the hugely popular Percy Jackson series. While Percy cavorted with Greek gods and half-gods, brother and sister Carter and Sadie come face to face with ancient Egyptian gods, magicians, and god-monsters. There are plenty of battle scenes against gods and monsters that feel very much like fantasy, with a bit of bloodshed, and some scenes in a bleak afterlife. At the beginning of the book Carter and Sadie, who lost their mother a few years before, deal with the disappearance of their father, whom they fear will never return. Carter and Sadie, despite their differences (raised different places, and Carter looks more like his black father while Sadie looks like their white mother), are constantly looking out for each other as they deal with some harsh realities about Egyptian history and their place in it. The audiobook version is read by Kevin R. Free and Katherine Kellgren. April 30, 2019 good if like history and learning about different gods that others believe This title has: June 15, 2015 The Red Pyramid is a very entertaining and educational book. It is a classic tale of good versus evil and has many positive messages and themes including teamwork and sacrifice. However, parents should be aware that, in addition to violence, there are some confusing religious statements, and although the characters constantly refuse to completely give over their mind to the spirits, the children are possessed by the gods. Because this book contains great educational value slightly tainted by negative elements, this story would be a good one to read and discuss as a family. This title has: Everything goes wrong when 14-year-old Carter, his Egyptologist father, and 12-year-old sister Sadie go to the British Museum for a private viewing of the Rosetta Stone. Carter and Sadie watch as their dad mysteriously blows the stone apart and gets trapped in a sarcophagus that disappears into the floor. That's when long-lost Uncle Amos helps them escape on a magic boat that whisks them to a Brooklyn mansion in seconds. And that's just the start of magical occurrences that involve ancient Egyptian gods unleashed, magicians from the House of Life who are trying to keep them in check, and Carter and Sadie caught in the middle, desperately trying to channel powers they never knew they had. They have only a few days to figure it all out before the god Set builds a gigantic pyramid in Phoenix and tries to destroy the whole of North America. Percy Jackson fans will probably be satisfied, but they have to like ancient history as much if not more than they like god-on-monster action. There are so many gods and their backstories to keep track of, but then that's the history of ancient Egypt: complicated. Now that kids know what a ba is and how to pull things out of the Duat and restore Ma'at, etc., etc., subsequent novels in the series will be an easier read, but this one may take a couple read-throughs to get it all straight. History lessons aside, this is a fun ride and mostly because Carter and Sadie are such great characters. They also have that signature sardonic wit that Percy was known for. Great one-liners come out of nowhere to lighten the mood when facing all manner of horrible creatures and almost certain death. When they are faced with a scary demon in the underworld it comes out that he's not only Lord of Blood and Wine, but also Lord of Perfume. Sadie asks politely if her brother can have a sample before they sail on. Families can talk about Carter and Sadie's relationship. Why did Carter envy Sadie's life with their grandparents? Why did Sadie admire Carter's with their father? How did they come to understand each other in the end? How did they complement each other? Families can also talk about ancient Egypt and everything they learned from the book. Do you want to read more about Egyptian gods? Which gods are the most interesting? Families can also talk about what makes great hero characters. What qualities do they share? Rick Riordan has written for both children and adults, but is probably most known today for his best-selling Percy Jackson and the Olympians series. His new series, The Kane Chronicles, repeats that successful formula, with an action-packed adventure featuring young heroes discovering that they are related to gods—this time, those of ancient Egypt. Carter and Sadie Kane are siblings who have little in common. They have grown up apart since their mother's mysterious death six years earlier. Fourteen-year-old Carter lives out of a suitcase, traveling the world with their Egyptologist father. Sadie, age 12, lives with their grandparents in London. Carter and his father visit Sadie just twice a year. With this intriguing premise, Riordan creates an interesting pair of heroes who feel family loyalty to each other, even as they start out neither knowing nor liking each other. Carter, though older, is much more timid. It's nice to avoid boy/girl stereotypes, but this weakness may turn off some boy readers. Sadie, on the other hand, is confident and reckless, sometimes to the point of being obnoxious. The siblings' flaws do make them more realistic, and over time they learn to understand and appreciate each other better. By the end, they are entirely likable. Their relationship also allows Riordan to touch on issues of sibling jealousy (each assumes the other has it better), and on race. Carter takes after his African-American father, and has been taught to dress well (or geeky, in Sadie's opinion) so as not to be mistaken for a thug. Sadie looks like her white mother and resents people who act surprised that she and Carter are related. It's nice to see diversity in children's literature, though the book's cover shows the children from the back, thus hiding their appearance. Their race isn't clear until several pages into the book. The story is told in alternating first-person narration by Carter and Sadie. This allows us to get to know each of the characters equally, and see their different perspectives on story events. It also provides some fun bickering. However, it becomes hard to keep track of who is narrating, causing this reviewer to have to keep jumping out of the story to check the name on the page headings, an unfortunate disruption of the plot. Another minor flaw will no doubt be overlooked by most young readers. Though he has spent his life traveling with his father, Carter's knowledge of Egyptology seems oddly spotty. He knows some obscure facts, while failing to recognize more common terms, which makes him seem stupid at times. In New York City, he accurately identifies Manhattan streets during a wild car chase, but doesn't know about the famous Egyptian temple in the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Carter's memory seems to suit the author's plot needs more than the authenticity of the character. Carter and Sadie are thrown into adventure when their father takes them to the British Museum, and there performs a spell that unleashes several Egyptian gods. Their father disappears when one of the gods entombs him, leaving Carter and Sadie to explain the explosion. The siblings' first goal is to rescue their father, but their task quickly grows. The fate of the world is at stake, Carter and Sadie each have an Egyptian god sharing their body and trying to take over, plus the evil god Set is trying to kill them. Then a group of magicians decides that Carter and Sadie are a threat to their order and must be eliminated. Allies are few and sometimes hard to recognize, while enemies are all around (and may take the form of a giant crocodile or thousands of scorpions). Overall, Riordan's writing is smooth, with good pacing and dramatic cliffhanger chapter endings. Though the book is over 500 pages long, it's a fast read, if sometimes a confusing one. The Egyptian history and mythology presented is extensive and complicated. Fortunately, many young readers are fascinated by ancient Egypt, and so may enjoy the challenge. The plot is also confusing, with dozens of twists and turns as the siblings are constantly given new tasks. They jump around the world, visiting, among other places, a city hidden under the Sphinx in Egypt, London, Paris, New York City, the Washington Monument, Elvis's Graceland Mansion in Memphis, the Rio Grande near El Paso, and Camelback Mountain in Phoenix, where Set is building the Red Pyramid that will allow him to take over the world. Though it's hard to look back and remember exactly what happened, let alone in what order, the intense action keeps the pages turning, and an overall goal of saving their father and the world drives the story forward. Riordan balances his action with humor, sometimes subtle and sometimes slapstick. Carter describes his father as looking "like a buff evil scientist." A basketball-fanatic baboon named Khufu will only eat foods that end in -o, such as Doritos, burritos, and flamingos. Bast, the cat goddess formerly living as Sadie's cat Muffin, offers the kids Friskies for dinner. The humor provides a lighter counterpoint to the intense action of constant life or death situations. The Kane Chronicles are more challenging than the Percy Jackson series, with a more confusing, random plot, and a complicated mythology that may overwhelm some young readers. Yet the action and humor will draw in many fans of either fantasy or adventure books. The Red Pyramid is sure to please many Rick Riordan fans, who will read the book several times while anxiously awaiting the next offering in the series.

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