



TEEN BOOK REVIEWS

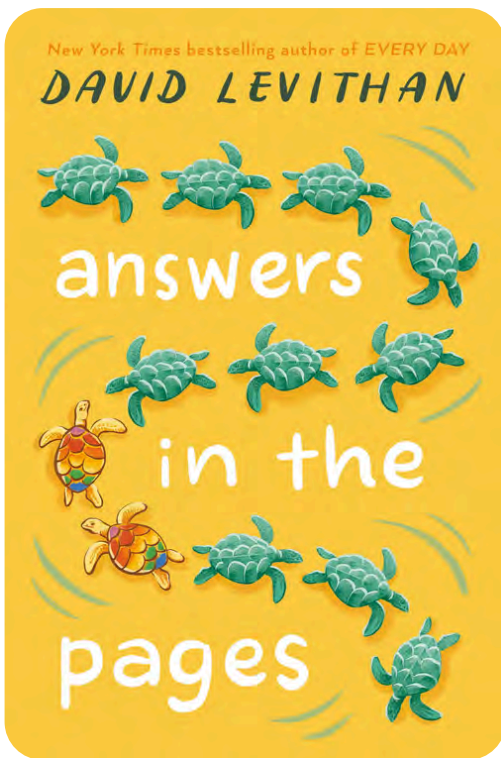
OCTOBER 2024

GUIDE

BOOKS IN THE
YOUNG ADULT
COLLECTION

BOOKS IN THE
ADULT
COLLECTION

BOOKS IN THE
CHILDREN
COLLECTION



ANSWERS IN THE PAGES BY DAVID LEVITHAN

CALL #:

J LEVITHAN

COLLECTION:

J FICTION

RATING:



GENRE:

REALISTIC FICTION

Book Review:

Sandpiper Township has been riled up by the ending of *The Adventurers*, a book that has been assigned to the students of Mr. Howe's 5th grade class. Apparently, some of the adults don't appreciate that the two protagonists, both male, fall in love at the end of the book. However, it isn't really clear whether they did get together or not. And even if they were gay, does it really matter? Nevertheless, Sandpiper Township is divided in the matter of the book being removed from the shelves.

Gideon was never interested in school and never thought about widening his small circle of friends, but when he gets paired up with Roberto Garcia, the new kid in town, on a school project, he catches feelings he never felt with anyone else before.

Rick and Oliver, *Adventurers* and partners in heroics, are trying to catch an evil professor while simultaneously protecting a code that could destroy the whole world.

I enjoyed this book because it portrays a book challenge in a small community accurately and realistically instead of in an over-the-top way. The chapters, similar to the style of *American Born Chinese* by Gene Luen Yang, alternate between three stories that are eventually revealed to be part of one big story, a format that the author executes perfectly.

I would recommend this book to anyone who wants to learn more about book challenges or people who enjoy an easygoing school story.





WHEN THE WORLD TIPS OVER BY JANDY NELSON

CALL #: YA FIC NELSON

COLLECTION: YOUNG ADULT FICTION

RATING:



GENRE: MAGICAL REALISM

Book Review:

When the World Tips Over is a multi-generational magical realism book that follows the Fall family, who live in a whimsical vineyard town called Paradise Springs. It's mostly centered on three siblings--Wynton, Miles, and Dizzy--whose dad disappeared when they were little and whose lives are changed when a girl named Cassidy arrives in town. It's slowly revealed that she is connected to the Fall siblings in unexpected ways and that she might have answers to finding out what happened to their dad all those years ago. Present and past storylines are interwoven with various letters, recipes, and myths that all help to reveal the truth of the Fall's cursed history and their dad's disappearance.

This was one of the most unique books I've ever read. Although the writing takes a while to get used to because of its frequent changes in format and perspective, I was so invested throughout the entire story. Jandy Nelson does a great job of giving each character a distinctive voice; as a result, all of the characters are super lovable and well-fleshed out. The magical realism was really well done, too--there are ghosts, talking dogs, and magical curses--all of which seem unexpected but somehow make the story even more compelling and whimsical. I loved the flashbacks to the past generations of the Fall family, and being able to uncover all their family secrets and see the effects they had on the current timeline was so interesting. My favorite part was definitely the relationship between Dizzy, Miles, and Wynton. All three of them were such memorable characters, and I thought the portrayal of sibling bonds and rivalries was done really well.

I would recommend this to anyone looking for a book that will keep you hooked until the very end. There's so much going on in the story that readers will be constantly turning the page wanting to learn more. Fans of Nelson's previous book, *I'll Give You the Sun*, will definitely love *When the World Tips Over*, which has the same magical charm, eccentric characters, and complex sibling dynamics.



IF TOMORROW DOESN'T COME BY JEN ST. JUDE

CALL #:

YA FIC ST. JUDE

COLLECTION:

YOUNG ADULT FICTION

RATING:



GENRE:

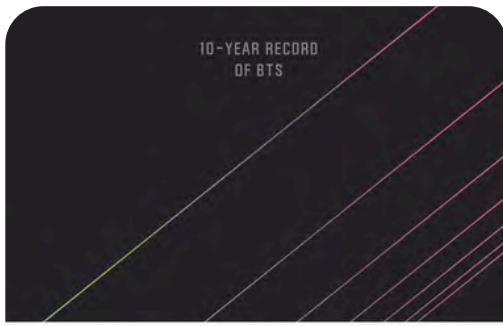
SCIENCE FICTION

Book Review:

If Tomorrow Doesn't Come opens with the main character, Avery, preparing to drown in a river on her college campus. Suddenly, she is interrupted by the news that an asteroid is on track to wipe out the Earth in nine days. As the world quickly moves into desperate chaos, Avery barely has time to think. Luckily, she is soon reunited with her family and best friend Cass and has a chance to stop and consider how she wants to live the rest of her life. As they settle into a makeshift bunker, Avery's heart is slowly healed. But what good is everything if it's all going to end in a few days? This book is an adrenaline-inducing, beautiful examination of what really matters and what can be let go of.

I loved this book. The anticipation was so strong I could barely keep myself from skipping to the end. My favorite part of the writing was how the author slowly revealed memories and information from Avery's past as we saw her interact with the characters in the present. This made the book suspenseful, and it was very satisfying when everything came together.

I definitely recommend this book. The main character is a lesbian girl struggling with depression, and this perspective is valuable whether you identify with it or not. *If Tomorrow Doesn't Come* is very well written and feels completely realistic, even though it's apocalyptic.



BEYOND THE STORY: 10 - YEAR RECORD OF BTS BY MYEONGSEOK KANG



CALL #:

B KANG, M.

COLLECTION:

NON-FICTION

RATING:



GENRE:

BIOGRAPHIES

Book Review:

Beyond The Story is a biography about the story of the famous KPop boy band, BTS. It tells about the ambition, hard work, and perseverance of 7 precious artists who came together and became a global sensation. It also explains the making of their albums and songs, including some separate pages about them and even small things the members said about their journey. Basically, the book explains a lot.

I think the book is amazing. It even explains a little bit of their early lives before it all began. I also love the extra details they added, like QR codes to see the music videos, group pictures from the albums at the beginning of each chapter, and individual photos of the seven members at the start of the book.

I highly recommend the book (especially for other ARMYs out there). But you might need to be a little older, like 11 and above, because of a few vocabulary words in like two pages. But besides that, I think the book was full of emotion, and I believe you will also love it as you follow the most famous boy group in the world through their story.



BLOODMARKED BY TRACY DEONN

CALL #: YA FIC DEONN

COLLECTION: YOUNG ADULT FICTION

RATING:



GENRE: FANTASY

Book Review:

Bloodmarked is the next installment in Tracy Deonn's Legendborn series, further delving into Briana's (Bree) adventures. Following her mother's passing and strange supernatural events, Bree becomes a member of a secretive group and learns that she is the real heir of King Arthur, not Nick, who everyone relies on. Nick, Bree's boyfriend, went missing by the end of the last season, leaving Bree to deal with a society filled with secrets and plots. In *Bloodmarked*, Bree attempts to demonstrate her worth for the position despite social obstacles. With Alice's assistance, her closest friend, and allies, Bree conquers the obstacle and masters her abilities.

I am captivated by this book due to the intricate character development and challenges they face. Bree not only has to demonstrate her value, but she also needs to learn how to harness her inherited special abilities. Nick is abducted and must decide between confronting his father or returning to Bree. The depiction of Bree's relationships with her friends in the story feels authentic and emotionally impactful, enhancing the book's attractiveness.

I'm a big fan of mythology and fantasy genres combined with mysterious adventures. So I think if you are like me, *Bloodmarked* is the right book; sometimes, it will turn into your favorite book. *Bloodmarked* reminds me of N.K. Jemisin's *The Inheritance Trilogy*. The series also revolves around the gods, the struggle for inheritance, and magical elements. This series will bring a feeling of fun, as *Bloodmarked* has brought.