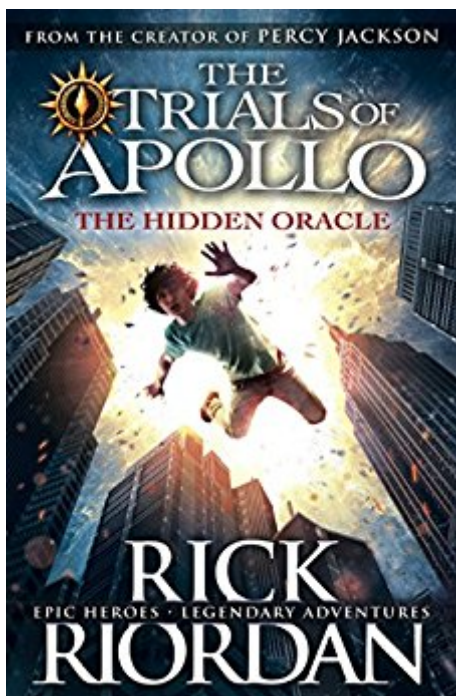


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The Hidden Oracle (The Trials Of Apollo Book 1)



Synopsis

How do you punish an immortal? By making him human. After angering his father Zeus, the god Apollo is cast down from Olympus. Weak and disorientated, he lands in New York City as a regular teenage boy. Now, without his godly powers, the four-thousand-year-old deity must learn to survive in the modern world until he can somehow find a way to regain Zeus's favour. But Apollo has many enemies - gods, monsters and mortals who would love to see the former Olympian permanently destroyed. Apollo needs help, and he can think of only one place to go . . . an enclave of modern demigods known as Camp Half-Blood.

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Customer Reviews

I'm happy about the release of this book, back to Camp Half Blood, and I admit the trip into Norse mythology was fun for a bit, but I've grown quite fond of our past protagonists and it was nice to have them back. One thing I would recommend, this book could be read on its own, without reading the others that have come before it, but I wouldn't.

There are some brief summaries of Camp Half-Blood and Camp Jupiter, but it talks about the outcome of those events. Also, the book takes place at the start of Riordan's last book Magnus Chase, and you know that based on what Annabeth is doing, she's in Boston. The book has Percy for a bit in it, but then it is primarily focused on Apollo and a new demi-god Meg. Like many of Riordan's past books, the origins of Meg are a bit of a mystery. Uh, I really have to say, there are some hysterical reference in the book that are not entirely based on the knowledge of children in the normal YA range. Shout-out to a Rocky Horror mention! Anyway, the book is enjoyable to read as all the others and is quick. Apollo is on earth as a mortal, the oracles have stopped prophesizing and there are a lot of tie-in's to other stories that will emerge in the future, in particular Leo. I was worried that Apollo would annoy me, but his arrogance is amusing, and he has some pretty interesting narratives on his fatherhood, especially being proud of his children's vanity. As a condition of his time on earth he must serve a demi-God, which is an enjoyable paring to read about and the character of Meg is unique and very strong. There's still more to learn about her background though, which I am excited for in the future. I don't want to give too much away, but the new threat is a bit different from the past and pertains to historical figures, not simply the Gods and Goddesses in the traditional sense. The entire story is told from Apollo's perspective and it's kind of nice to have on-going pop-culture references, even as recent as Alabama Shakes. I highly recommend it! However, wait to read this after you've read the other Percy Jackson books!

Rick Riordan didn't disappointed me! I was actually really surprise by how he depicted Apollo, bravely refusing to hide to worst part of the character. Apollo isn't depicted as a character that wants to be liked or pitied at all costs, actually in some parts of the book I found myself wanting to slap him for how annoying and self centered he was. But that's how it was supposed to be. Apollo was kind of a psychotic god and certainly not one of the kindest. It was also really funny, I found myself laughing out loud in more than one moment, but there were also some pretty serious parts, and some sad ones. And of course I loved how the author wasn't scared of depicting Apollo as bisexual (even if the term doesn't even begin to describe it). I love Nico and Will relationship, I love Nico's character development since the previous books and how Apollo started to change during the story, I loved Meg and Percy and Leo's parts, all the different nationality of the characters at camp, heck, I've even loved the buck-naked statue. (well, I'm actually still laughing about that...) Yeah, can't wait for the next one.

“The Hidden Oracle” by Rick Riordan is a new adventure in the world of Greek and Roman gods, demigods, monsters and spirits. I remember when I saw first news about this book I almost squealed. This is a very dear universe for me, and I couldn't wait to find out what the characters were up to. I was not disappointed: several old friends appear during the story, some are mentioned in conversations, and some you just remember about. Rick Riordan returns to first-person narrating, bringing the stories back to the personal level. You will pity unfortunate Apollo from the very first pages, laugh at his naïve and oblivious actions and live through his heartbreaks. The scale of the story dropped massively — everything takes place not just in one city, it is narrowed to the Camp, and it is a nice change from massive journey we lived through in last five books. But at the same time, the book plants dozens of seed for development of the plot, future cameos and intriguing secrets. It is very refreshing to see the main character of youth fiction be openly bisexual (pansexual?). Through eyes of Apollo you see his view of the world, the god who can't choose and doesn't want to choose. Even in mortality he doesn't change, he describes girls and boys as equally attractive, doesn't give a single thought of his son dating another boy and represents the perfect mindset for a modern person. A very important topic is raised with a new character. Family abuse is often ignored in social media, but Meg is a sad example of victim syndrome. She lived through abuse, but continues to defend her abuser — a very often behavior. Personally, I really wanted to help her out of this, and it should be a very important character arcs in future books. Thanks, Mr. Riordan, for bringing this topic up and treating it so realistically. All in all I'm intrigued for next books! Definitely a must-read for all the fans, and for all the readers, who like funny and fast-paced stories with bright humor and memorable characters. PS: The haikus for each chapter are 10/10! PPS: Limericks keep on getting stuck in my head now.

Absolutely amazing! I've wanted a children's book to present gay and bisexual characters in an equal light as straight relationships for so long. I'm so happy the god Apollo was presented in his full bi/pan glory. Rick Riordan = breathing true life back into Greek mythology.

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