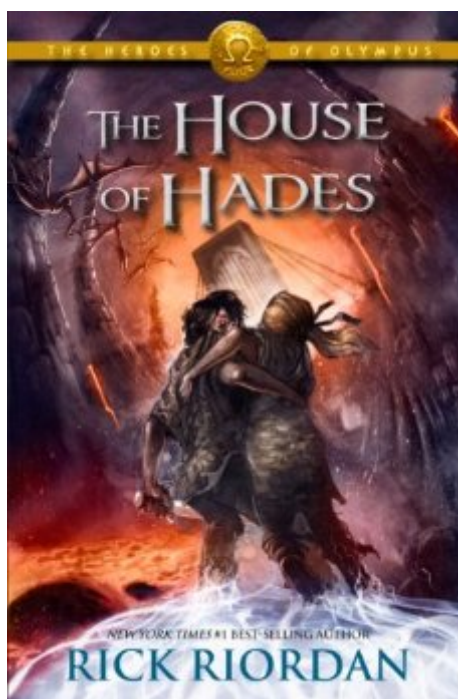


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The House Of Hades (The Heros Of Olympus, Book 4)



Synopsis

At the conclusion of *The Mark of Athena*, Annabeth and Percy tumble into a pit leading straight to the Underworld. The other five demigods have to put aside their grief and follow Percy's instructions to find the mortal side of the Doors of Death. If they can fight their way through the Gaea's forces, and Percy and Annabeth can survive the House of Hades, then the Seven will be able to seal the Doors from both sides and prevent the giants from raising Gaea. But, Leo wonders, if the Doors are sealed, how will Percy and Annabeth be able to escape? They have no choice. If the demigods don't succeed, Gaea's armies will never die. They have no time. In about a month, the Romans will march on Camp Half-Blood. The stakes are higher than ever in this adventure that dives into the depths of Tartarus.

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Customer Reviews

I started buying Rick Riordan's books with the intention of using them to read to my son, who was 5 yrs old at the time. My "plan" was to show him just how much fun reading (or having a book read to you) is & how a good book could capture your mind. It worked. We started with the Percy Jackson & the Olympians series, quickly moved on to *The Kane Chronicles* & by the time the *Lost Heroes* of

Olympus series was starting my son, now 8, reads them himself. As a child diagnosed with ADHD at age 5, my son loved that all the demigods had ADHD & the reasoning/explanations that came with it. Normally, as a bibliophile I am 1 of "those people" who has the next installment in a book series in my hands the day it comes out. My work schedule has been hectic so the release date of The House of Hades came & went without my notice.....UNTIL I was wandering through a store & there it was on the shelf. I bought it immediately, all the while kicking myself that I'd forgotten. See, I started buying them for my son, but I quickly came to adore the books as much as him, reading them in quick succession.-----POSSIBLE SPOILERS-----In my opinion, Riordan has done it AGAIN. I gotta tell you, this man is BRILLIANT. I'm always blown away by the fluid nature of his writing, the way Riordan seemingly has endless ideas that pour forth in his books. As a reader, just when you start to think, "there's not really anywhere else he can go", BAM, he pulls a new & terrific storyline out of his hat. Impossibly, it's always more exciting than the last. I've read on a few blogs & book boards that the next installment in The Lost Heroes of Olympus may be the final tome in the adventures of Percy & friends.

I took my daughter to Barnes and Noble to get her some books for her birthday and saw The House of Hades on the table near the children's section. Of course, I grabbed it because I've been waiting for it to come out for a year. That cliffhanger at the end of Mark of Athena made me crazy and I was salivating to find out what Tartarus was like. Riordan really hit the nail on the head with that lead-in. Without blabbering anymore, here's my review! From a reader's perspective: I love Percy and Annabeth, Hazel and Frank, and Jason and Piper; but, my favorite character by far is Leo. For some reason, he and I click. I was so happy when he got shot off the Argo II and into oblivion in this book because what happened to him is something he's deserved for a long time. Making me care about a character is something I look for in any book I read. Riordan does a great job of helping me connect with these kids. I've read about them all for so long, they feel like friends. Pacing in this book was excellent and the tension was so high, I turned the page without even thinking about it. I blew through it in just over 24 hours. Gaea, one of my favorite goddesses, is becoming one of my least favorite. She has such an evil side! At times, I want to slap her earthy face. I loved the re-introduction of Bob. He provided much needed comic relief in times of extreme stress. World building was off the charts amazing and I felt like I was right there with the teens as they fought. From an editor's perspective: I found a number of dropped words in this book. This is something I'd expect to find more in non-traditionally published books. It threw me out of the story more than once. Other than that, the writing was spot on.

Review originally published on [...]The House of Hades picks up right where The Mark of Athena left off. When the last book ended, Percy and Annabeth were falling into Tartarus. The House of Hades opens up with the two fighting their way through the Underworld to reach the Doors of Death in the hopes of sealing them. Meanwhile, in the mortal world, the other five demigods of the prophecy (Hazel, Jason, Piper, Leo, and Frank) fight to reach the opposite side of the Doors to seal them from the mortal side. I honestly thought the plot was going to drag because it's 608 pages and all that needed to be done was to seal some doors. I'll say that this is probably the most fast-paced book in the Heroes of Olympus series. The parts that were told from Percy and Annabeth's perspectives were paced faster than the other ones, but the others were still entertaining and needed. I liked the way that almost every character grew in this book, especially Frank. Up until The House of Hades, I wasn't Frank's biggest fan, but now, I love him. I felt that out of all them, Jason didn't grow that much, but I already liked him enough. I wish we could get to know him a little better. I feel like I should mention this because it's all most people seem to be talking about. There have been so many mixed reviews about Nico in this book and honestly, I'm torn about it. Although it was one of the most defining moments in the book, I'm not sure it was actually needed. Sure, it explained things, but I felt it kind of drew away from the plot a little bit. I thought there was way too much focus on this part in particular and I felt that it wasn't entirely believable. Nowhere in any of the books was there a hint that Nico was gay and all of the sudden, there it is.

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