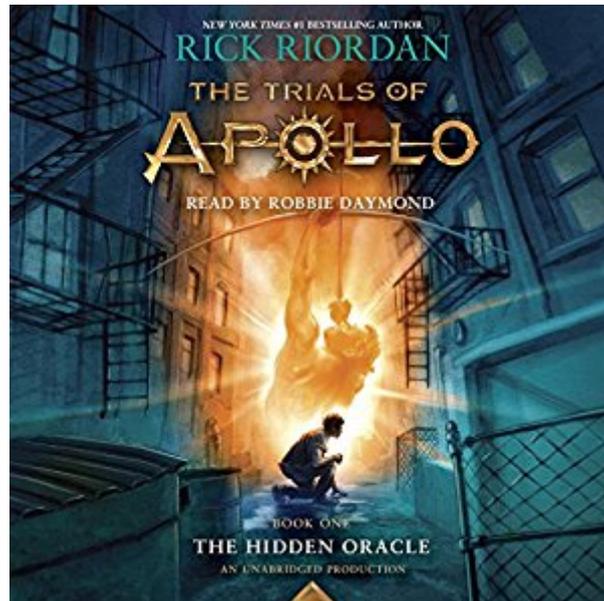


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# The Trials Of Apollo, Book One: The Hidden Oracle



## 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 disoriented, he lands in New York City as a regular teenage boy. Now, without his godly powers, the 4,000-year-old deity must learn to survive in the modern world until he can somehow find a way to regain Zeus' favor. 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.

## Book Information

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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-ins 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 pairing 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.

The Trials of Apollo Book One The Hidden Oracle by Rick Riordan is the start of a new Greek mythology series from middle grade staple Rick Riordan. This new series centres around the god Apollo, who has been stripped of his godly powers by his father, Zeus. Naturally, adventures and shenanigans ensue. For me this read a little younger than the Heroes of Olympus series, more in line with Percy Jackson. Apollo's human persona is aged 16, but he spends a lot of time hanging around with 13 year old Meg which naturally makes the feel of the book somewhat younger. Also, there is no emphasis at all on romantic relationships. What I liked Riordan's writing style. After many series including Percy Jackson and the Olympians, Heroes of Olympus, Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard, Riordan's light, witty style should be familiar to most readers. If you enjoyed the earlier books, you will certainly enjoy this one. They are very funny. I breezed through The Hidden Oracle in an afternoon. While it is not necessary to have read the earlier series, I would strongly recommend doing so before picking up this latest one. There are many references to characters and events from previous entries that, while not necessary to enjoy the story, are enhanced by knowledge of both of the other Olympian series. The protagonist. I was amused by Apollo's attitude and the circumstances he kept finding himself in. In theme it's very similar to Marvel's Thor movie in which a god becomes mortal but takes some time to adjust to his new situation. I enjoyed Apollo's character development and how he changes throughout the course of the adventure.

I am over twice the target demographic for this book (closing in on thrice, actually) but I thoroughly enjoyed this book and could not recommend it enough! As a big fan of Greek mythology and of Rick Riordan's work this book came with great expectations attached to it, and it definitely managed to even exceed them. The story is fun (it reads a bit 'younger' than Heroes of Olympus but hey, I'm the one who's reading children's books. It's not a criticism as much as it is an observation); Apollo's point of view is fitting both what we know of him through mythology AND through his past appearances in the Percy Jackson/Heroes of Olympus series; and the secondary characters, no

matter how marginal, are all extremely endearing and make me want to know more about them! Although I long for the day this won't be necessary, I also feel the need to comment on Apollo's romantic history and Will and Nico's relationship, as many others did and surely will continue doing as a response to this book coming out: my hat goes off to Rick Riordan for writing (and to Disney for publishing) a book that normalizes same sex relationships and same sex attraction -something that is fundamental we teach children, especially when you consider some of them will not receive that kind of education at home (as it is made obvious by some of the other reviews).

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