

Riordan, Rick. **The Lost Hero**. 2010. 553 pgs.

Recommended for Grades 6-12

Fantasy, Science Fiction

The novel, "The Lost Hero" tells about the journey of three children, Piper, Leo, and Jason. However, these are no ordinary children, in addition to having one normal parent; they also have one parent that is an ancient Greek God. This makes them known as demigods, meaning, half human, half God. The kids meet on a school field trip where they discover their Godly powers. They are then taken away to a camp made especially for demigods, Camp Half-Blood. They now learn that Zeus' wife, Hera, has been missing, and she must be found. They are then assigned a quest to save the world from an impending civil war with the Gods, and also to find Piper's father, who had been kidnapped. During this quest they must also try and find Percy Jackson, a camper who has been kidnapped, taken to another camp, and completely wiped of his memory. As they embark on their quest they meet many friends, and foes. Some of these include, Cyclopes, wind Gods, King Midas, Ogres, and Bloodthirsty wolves. Soon the trio reaches Mount Diablo, California, where together, with the help of Jason's dad Zeus, they defeat the evil Enceladus and take back Piper's father. Now they fly to the Wolf House, where they believe Hera has been taken. Although the goddesses' powers have been weakened, the Greeks still manage to free her from her bonds and bring her safely back to Mount Olympus, the home of the Gods. Having successfully completed their quest, Piper, Leo, and Jason return to camp and tell of what they had discovered during their quest. To find out what happened to Percy, and the other camp, you must read the second book in this series, "The Son of Neptune".

The author of this book had a very unique writing style. He wrote the events in chronological order, rather than foreshadowing and showing what might happen next. He also used a lot of factual names and places that some people might not be able to relate to. Some of the names of the Gods are a little hard to pronounce, but all in all his writing is pretty easy to understand. I think to read this book you must be vaguely familiar with Riordan's type of writing and also Greek Mythology. I would recommend this book to teens that enjoy reading fantasy and science fiction novels that are completely made up, but also have some fact within them.

By Ryan Bloom