

The Extraordinary Adventures of Alfred Kropp (Alfred Kropp Adventures Book 1)

By Rick Yancey

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Alfred Kropp is just trying to survive high school when his guardian uncle ropes him into a suspicious get-rich-quick scheme that changes his life forever: stealing Excalibur-the legendary sword of King Arthur.
But when Alfred unwittingly delivers the sword into the wrong hands, he undertakes an unlikely quest to right his wrong and save the world from imminent destruction.
This gripping, fast-paced, often hilarious novel is both a thrilling adventure story and an engaging account of one
boy's coming of age.

"One of those unforgettable tales, both humorous and poignant, visceral and scary, that stays with you long after you are drained breathless by a captivating read." - Ridley Pearson, co-author of *Peter and the Starcatchers*

"If you've been dying for a fast-paced thriller of a tale... [this] is the book for you." - Jon Scieszka, editor of *Guys Write for Guys Read*

"Like J. K Rowling, first time YA novelist Yancey deftly leavens the heavier plot elements with humour; this story of a big-headed loser is as funny as it is scary. Alfred's adventures are not the only element of this tale that is extraordinary - the reluctant hero is too." - *Publishers Weekly*, starred review

"Yancey has hit one out of the park with this original, engaging, sequel-worthy read."- *Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

"This *is* an extraordinary adventure. Swordplay, guns, helicopters, fast cars and a striking conclusion make for a headlong, interesting read for teenagers." -*curledupkids.com*

Look out for the other exciting books in this series: *The Seal of Solomon* and *The Thirteenth Skull*!

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal
Grade 6-8–Astonishingly tall 15-year-old Alfred is plunged into a world of adventure, assassination, and Arthurian legend when he agrees to help his uncle filch an ancient sword from the office of a CEO who just happens to be a descendent of the Knights of the Round Table. Of course the sword turns out to be none other than Excalibur, and the guy Alfred swiped it for is Mogart, a knight-gone-bad who hopes to use its magical powers to take over the world. Enter Bennacio, another descendant of the Round Table, who then takes Alfred under his wing on a quest across the Atlantic to rescue the sword from Mogart. The descriptions of minor bits of blood and gore leave much to the imagination and will make *Kropp* especially appealing to fans of Anthony Horowitz's Alex Rider books (Philomel), Geoffrey Huntington's *Sorcerers of the Nightwing* (ReganBooks, 2002), and even Darren Shan's The Saga of Darren Shan series (Little, Brown). True to its action-adventure genre, the story is lighthearted, entertaining, occasionally half-witted, but by and large fun.–*Hillias J. Martin, New York Public Library*
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From Booklist
Gr. 9-12^B. Everyone around Alfred Kropp is dying. And all because the unassuming 15-year-old took something he shouldn't have. Darned kid. Then the big lug goes on to save the world. Sound incredible? Well, not when you learn that what he's taken is Excalibur, King Arthur's sword, the most powerful weapon on earth, which has somehow survived in the custody of descendants of the original Knights of the Round Table. Of course, taking the sword is one thing; keeping it, as Alfred discovers, is quite another, especially given international forces--for good *and* evil--are after Excalibur, too, and they will stop at nothing to get it back. Heads literally roll in the ensuing, intensely violent and cinematic action, as Alfred discovers enough astonishing things about himself to fire a whole host of sequels, which are sure to follow. For readers willing to suspend disbelief, Yancey's first novel for YAs is a white-knuckle, page-turning read. *Michael Cart*
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Review

“A great book for boys, as well as reluctant readers . . . teens will love and won't be able to put down.” ?*School Library Journal on ALFRED KROPP AND THE SEAL OF SOLOMON*

“Like J. K Rowling, first time YA novelist Yancey deftly leavens the heavier plot elements with humor; this story of a big-headed loser is as funny as it is scary.” ?*Publishers Weekly*

“Yancey has hit one out of the park with this original, engaging, sequel-worthy read.” ?*Kirkus Reviews*

Users Review

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Alicia Wescott:

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Daniel Nelson:

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