

The Light (Morpheus Road Book 1)

By D.J. MacHale

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The Light (Morpheus Road Book 1) By D.J. MacHale

Marshall Seaver is being haunted.

It begins with mysterious sounds, a fleeting face outside a window, a rogue breeze—all things that can be explained away. That is, until he comes face-to-face with a character who only exists on
the pages of a sketchbook—a character Marshall himself created.

Marshall has no idea why he is being tormented by this forbidding creature, but he is quickly convinced it has something to do with his best friend, Cooper, who has gone missing. Together with Cooper's beautiful but aloof sister, Sydney, Marshall searches for the truth about his friend while ultimately uncovering a nightmare that is bigger and more frightening than he could ever have imagined.

Number one New York Times bestselling author D. J. MacHale launches his eerie new trilogy with a story so packed with chilling suspense, readers will want to sleep with the light on.

* * *

The voices grew louder, more urgent, as if they were running out of time. It sounded like gibberish. It was gibberish. I knew that. It was a dream, right? That's what I told myself and it calmed me down. That is, until I heard a single word break through the haze as plain and clear as if someone had leaned over and spoke directly into my ear.
--"*Morpheus.*"

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal
Gr 7 Up–Marsh can't wait to hang out with his best friend, Cooper, during the summer. When Marsh learns that his friend has other plans, he's crushed. Cooper gets caught scalping tickets, and Marsh can't get over the change in his friend. When Cooper disappears, Marsh is determined to find out what happened. But then Gravedigger, a creepy character that Marsh has been drawing obsessively, suddenly appears and begins to torment the boy. As things get more difficult to understand and as Marsh gets more and more frightened for his life, he turns to Cooper's enigmatic sister to uncover what happened to Cooper. However, Marsh's journey with Gravedigger has only just begun, and he wonders if he will be forced to travel the unknown "Morpheus Road." D. J. MacHale's chilling first title (Aladdin, 2010) in a projected trilogy is a ghost story with true bite. Nick Podehl perfectly balances the voice of a teenage boy, the gravely and chilling tones of evil spirits, and the suspenseful pacing of the text. Fans of MacHale's Pendragon series will be drawn to this tale, but younger listeners should be made aware that this is a much more frightening and graphically violent series.*Jessica Miller, New Britain Public Library, CT*
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From Booklist
Sixteen-year-old Marshall Seaver lost his mother two years ago when an earthquake destroyed the ancient temple she was photographing on assignment. Now he has had a falling out with his best friend, Cooper; strange noises and visions are haunting him; and most distressing of all, a ghoulish character he draws named “Gravedigger” has come to life and is stalking him. MacHale follows his successful Pendragon series with a scary read for middle-schoolers, reminiscent of Stephen King. Although some of the necessary plot details in this Morpheus Road series opener are baldly laid out rather than elegantly spun, readers will find themselves racing through this thriller to solve one mystery after another. There's a bit of predictable but enjoyable light romance between Marshall and Cooper's aloof and condescending sister, Sydney. MacHale focuses on the poignancy of losing those we love, and clinging to the ghosts of memory, while laying the groundwork for what promises to be another popular series. Grades 6-10. --Debbie Carton

Review
Book One of this new trilogy grabs the reader immediately and never lets go. Marshall, an unassuming guy, lives vicariously through his adventurous best friend, Cooper. When Cooper is taken away after getting into too much trouble, and Marshall’s dad goes out of town, strange things begin to happen. His drawings of the supposedly imaginary Gravedigger seem to come to life and attack him. Marshall and Cooper’s older sister go in search of Cooper and unwittingly become ensnared in a dangerous nightmare. They learn that Gravedigger was just a small danger compared to what lies ahead. Marshall learns that he must locate items required by a creature much more evil and demonic. The use of foreshadowing will keep readers engaged as they learn that the end of this novel is just the beginning of Marshall’s quest. This high-octane action adventure will fly off the shelves and have students begging for the next installment.

--Library Media Connection August/September

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Betty Young:

Your reading sixth sense will not betray you actually, why because this The Light (Morpheus Road Book 1) reserve written by well-known writer who really knows well how to make book that can be understand by anyone who read the book. Written with good manner for you, leaking every ideas and producing skill only for eliminate your own hunger then you still doubt The Light (Morpheus Road Book 1) as good book not simply by the cover but also by the content. This is one publication that can break don't assess book by its handle, so do you still needing a different sixth sense to pick this specific!? Oh come on your examining sixth sense already alerted you so why you have to listening to a different sixth sense.

Keri Yokum:

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June Ortiz:

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