

The Eighth Day

By Dianne K. Salerni

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In this riveting fantasy adventure that VOYA called "absolutely necessary for middle grades," thirteen-year-old Jax Aubrey discovers a secret Eighth Day with roots tracing back to Arthurian legend. Fans of Percy Jackson will devour this first book in a new series that combines exciting magic and pulse-pounding suspense.

When Jax wakes up to a world without any people, he assumes it's the zombie apocalypse. But when he runs into his eighteen-year-old guardian, Riley Pendare, he learns that he's really in the Eighth Day—an extra day sandwiched between Wednesday and Thursday. Some people—like Jax and Riley—are Transitioners, able to live in all eight days, while others, including Evangeline, the elusive teenage girl who's been hiding in the house next door, exist only on this special day.

There's a reason Evangeline's hiding. As the descendant of the powerful wizard Merlin, her magic is highly sought by corrupt Transitioners who want to use her to destroy the seven-day world. Torn between protecting his new friend and saving the human race from destruction, Jax is faced with an impossible choice. Even with an eighth day, time is running out.

Be sure to check out *The Inquisitor's Mark*, the spellbinding second novel in the Eighth Day series.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal
Gr 5–7—Jax Aubrey wakes up one day to discover he is a Transitioner; a person gifted with an extra 24-hour day between Wednesday and Thursday. His guardian, Riley, is also a Transitioner, and begins to slowly introduce Jax to a secret world of magic and adventure. Jax soon realizes it's not all fun and games. Not all Transitioners are who and what they appear to be, and Riley is tasked with guarding the girl next door, a prisoner who only exists in this magical Eighth Day. The girl, Evangeline, is the key to rival Transitioners' plans to use the extra day to destroy the normal world. Only Riley, Jax, and their allies can hope to stop them. The Eighth Day is an interesting concept, and Salerni makes it work by having Jax learn, along with the reader, to navigate this extra day that is both fascinating and extremely dangerous. The concept melds Arthurian legend into present day in much the same way that Rick Riordan uses Greek and Egyptian mythology, with characters being descendents of heroes long thought to be folklore and their place in this world sometimes dependent on that lineage. There are a few points where the action stalls slightly, but in general the writing is fast paced and exciting. The story lends itself to further adventures and readers will be excited to follow Jax and eager to see what happens next.—Erik Knapp, Davis Library, Plano, TX

From Booklist
Adventure, magic, and Arthurian legend combine in a roller-coaster ride of secrets and mythology. When Jax Aubrey’s father is killed in a car accident, a mysterious stranger shows up claiming to be his guardian. Jax isn’t thrilled; Riley Pendare never buys groceries, keeps to himself, and is full of secrets. Soon Jax discovers an eighth day—a day between Wednesday and Thursday, known as Grunsday—that only descendants of Merlin, Arthur, and the Knights of the Round Table can pass through. Evangeline, a girl who only lives on Grunsdays, becomes the target of those hoping to destroy the normal seven-day week, and it’s up to Jax and Riley to protect her. The adventure starts early and whizzes along at a brisk clip, with more about Jax’s past and the legend of Grunsday unfolding as the novel continues. Perfect fodder for fans who adore mythology, legends, and series with more volumes yet to come. Grades 4-7. --Sarah Bean Thompson

Review
“Ancient magic pairs nicely with modern intrigue. Complicated alliances and ruthless villains keep the pages turning. A promising start to a new trilogy.” (Kirkus Reviews (on The Eighth Day))

“[A] fast-paced, magical adventure. An unparalleled mix of evil villains, humor, and background that set this up for a likeable trilogy to be recommended for fans of Percy Jackson and Harry Potter. Absolutely necessary for middle grades.” (Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA))

“Fascinating…Melds Arthurian legend into present day. Fast paced and exciting.” (School Library Journal)

“Adventure, magic, and Arthurian legend combine in a roller-coaster ride of secrets. Perfect fodder for fans who adore mythology, legends, and series with more volumes yet to come.” (ALA Booklist)

“Suspense, stakes, and action. Enormously satisfying.” (The Nerdy Book Club)

Praise for the The Inquisitor’s Mark: “The concept and the characters are strong, and should continue to entertain its audience who will now eagerly await book three.” (School Library Journal)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Martha Wilson:

What do you in relation to book? It is not important with you? Or just adding material when you really need something to explain what your own problem? How about your spare time? Or are you busy particular person? If you don't have spare time to do others business, it is make you feel bored faster. And you have spare time? What did you do? Everyone has many questions above. They need to answer that question mainly because just their can do that. It said that about guide. Book is familiar in each person. Yes, it is suitable. Because start from on guardería until university need this particular The Eighth Day to read.

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