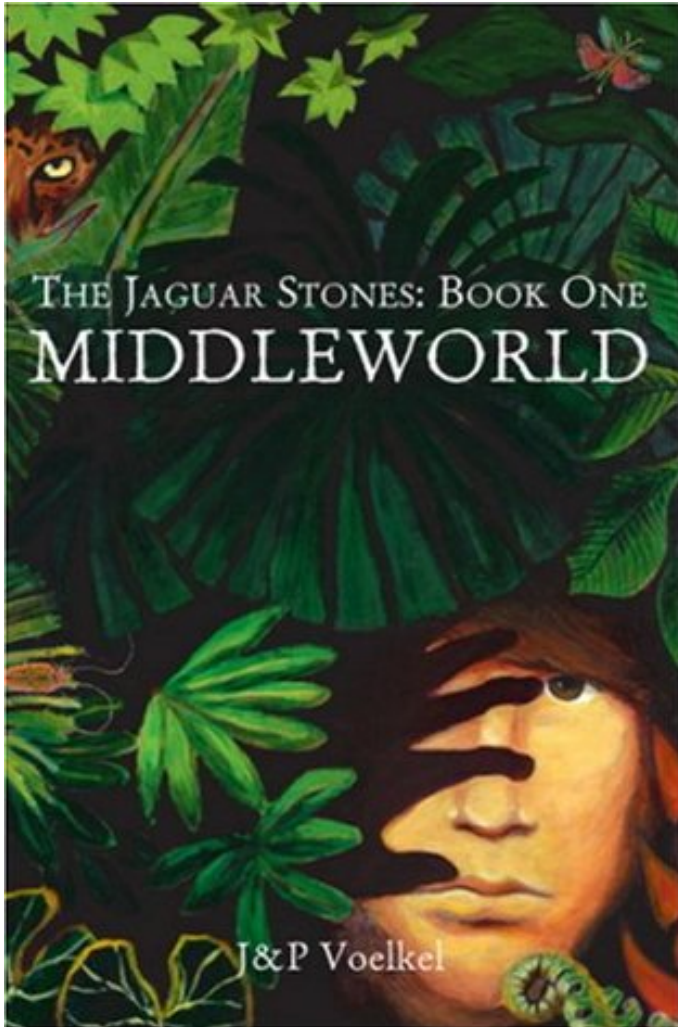

Jon Voelkel

Middleworld (Jaguar Stones #1)



Title: Middleworld (Jaguar Stones #1)

Author: Jon Voelkel

Format: Hardcover

Language: English

Pages: 400

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Download: allowed

Description

Harry Potter meets Indiana Jones meets Clash of the Titans! Fasten your seat belts for a heart-stopping ride of suspense and terror, set against a background of haunted temples, family secrets, ritual sacrifice, and adolescent angst, as a pampered, pizza-eating Boston teenager fights to survive in the teeming jungle and save the modern world from the Ancient Maya Lords of Death. It transports the reader to a world in which the Maya deities still have power and influence, where time and space are in flux, but where even a fourteen-year-old from the outside can become aware, and find wisdom and love, if he can but open his eyes to the magic around him.

Insightful reviews

JilltheOWL: I love the Indiana Jones movies with all the adventure mixed in with fact, history, legend and lore. When I saw the summary for Middleworld I was immediately intrigued because it reminded me of a story you might see Indiana in! I was also interested because it told about the Mayan culture - something I knew very little about. With fingers crossed that I would like the story, I began to read. I will be honest and say the preface really made me worried about the rest of the book. The preface takes place during Mayan times, and I was confused throughout most of it. If the rest of the book took place that far in the past I didn't know if I could finish it! BUT when it switched to present time it took off! Within the first chapter Max's parents leave him to go off on a dig. Max was not happy and, to tell you the truth, I didn't blame him! Here he was all excited to go on a family vacation to Italy, and his parents cancel it and leave him alone. Any kids could relate to Max's reaction and be on his side.

Soon tho he's pulled from his safe home and summoned to his uncle's house in San Xavier near where his parents are on the dig. Within hours of meeting his uncle the action starts when he watches his uncle do business with a very evil seeming man. You know right away there are a lot of secrets surrounding his uncle and even his own parents - who seemed to be missing. I like that it jumped into the action right away because it kept me from getting bored, so I knew it would be the same for my students.

Not long later Max sneaks out in the middle of the night thinking he can help a situation he sees. Instead he becomes lost in the jungle. He is found by Lola - a girl I loved! She was spunky, smart, outspoken and self confident! Max, on the other hand is not impressed. He complains to her - a lot - about everything! Honestly if Max hadn't realized how bad his behavior was when he did - I don't think I could've taken him much long. His whining was getting to me!

Shades of Indiana Jones come in as Lola and Max find her friend Hermanjilio, and expert in Maya culture. They go after the Jaguar Stones - bringing the past into the future in the form of two howler monkeys. I loved the use of the monkeys. Lady Coco - who I thought I wouldn't like at first - turned out to be fantastic! She made me laugh several times because she loved the fact she didn't have to be so ladylike in her new form.

Ok after rambling through this review I'll give you my short version. I enjoyed the action. I loved

learning about the Mayans. I adored how strong Lola was. I loved the lessons Max learned. And I laughed at Lady Coco. I'd definitely read the next book :) Clear enough for ya?

Final Thought: I believe my final thought is best said by a quote from the book "As I see it," said Max, "all that stands between humankind and the end of the world is two talking monkeys, a crazy archaeologist covered in red paint, and a couple of kids with blowguns. Am I right?"

Best stick-with-you image: Um, Lady Coco letting out some, um, unlady like sounds to distract bodyguards.

Best for ages: 12+ I think even adults could learn from this book

Ellen: When my student approached me to share his favorite book, his first chapter book ever, I was very moved. This was not an offer I would approach lightly. As with any shared reading experience, I immediately found connections not just to the characters in the story but also to the person who recommended it to me. I am certain young readers, especially boys like my student, saw much of themselves in the main character Max who clashes with his parents and holds a very typical American-centered view of the world. At times Max feels a little whiny and annoying, but that's for a purpose, since the writer wants us to clearly see how he changes during his experience.

Max goes on an adventure to rescue his archeologist parents from ancient Mayan evil. Throughout the story much Mayan culture and religious believes are explored, including lots of blood and references to human sacrifice. The whole story is frenetically action-packed and fiercely plot-driven right up to a massive cliffhanger. Readers who enjoy this fast pace and can show discernment with all the spiritual content will enjoy this book and likely learn quite a bit about the Maya at the same time. Those who may be troubled by the idea of possession or facing demons in Mayan hell should be cautioned.

The Cheap Reader: Percy Jackson meets Indiana Jones in this heart-stopping—and funny—adventure set in the Mayan jungle.

The summary was enough to sell me on the book. The above blurb on the back of the book made me a bit nervous though. I'm a huge fan of Percy Jackson and Indiana Jones so in theory I should love the book but I was worried that it was more of a marketing ploy than anything. Well, I gotta say they were pretty close to the mark with the blurb.

This book was a good mix of Percy Jackson and Indiana Jones. Don't go into this thinking it's going to be exactly like PJ though. It simply takes the idea that the old myths are actually true and aren't simply stories. The Indiana Jones bit was all the archeology through out the story. The story did feel a bit like Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom. Both had the different cultures, stones that were very important, human sacrifices... probably more but I can't think of them right now.

Back to the book....Man it was an adventure. The story got exciting pretty fast. The story never really slows down. There were times where I felt wiped out after reading for a bit! Does that show my age or my laziness?

Read the rest of the review at [The Cheap Reader](#)

Rebecca: mayan experience and sturdy motion for kids. i discovered it rather stricken me the most childrens attitudes. however the cool factor is, they frustrated the writer and the child too. i simply wish that the undesirable perspective doesn't see cool to my kids who will learn this. will the ethical come via well? will they proceed to learn and discover a swap of center wanted also?

Marcus Kautzman: Middleworld is a truly good written and engaging ebook that used to be written by means of Jon Voelkel. The publication is set a latest day fifteen yr outdated boy that will get combined up in a conflict that combines the traditional and sleek Maya humans and traditions. Max is a standard boy with above usual archaeologist mom and dad who chew off a bit greater than they could chunk concerning Maya ideals larger left untouched. he's despatched to San Xavier to assist them, yet quickly reveals out that during the rain forest, no longer every little thing is because it seems. Max occasionally has difficulty getting together with his parents, and that i can relate to that. i might suggest this publication to an individual that liked Rick Riordan's Kane series, The Lightning Thief series, or The Heroes of Olympus.

Lauren: each now and again I stumble upon a publication I simply can't get into nor end for the lifetime of me, and The Jaguar Stones: Middleworld was once regrettably a kind of forms of booksOne of the most purposes for now not having fun with this publication was once Max, the most character. I felt that he was once simply too whiny and bratty for my tastes, leaving me to have a difficult time placing up and sympathizing with him and his situation, and do not even get me begun approximately connecting to him or his situation. It used to be simply hopeless, unfortunately enough. Plus, the opposite characters brought during this (I learn as much as 224, greater than part way) have been ones that I would've had the opportunity of liking in the event that they truly have been constructed a section more. I do admit notwithstanding that I did like Lola. She was once spunky and unique and i've a sense if this used to be advised in her POV in its place I would've enjoyed the book. whereas the idea of this is often really awesome, I had an exceptionally tough time attempting to get into the book. might be it was once simply the temper i used to be in or even it used to be simply no longer the object for me, yet i could not make it throughout the complete book. Though, I do provide J&P large props for the extent of study they need to have placed into this to make the Mayan facets be 3 dimensional and realistic.In all, Middleworld wasn't the ebook for me usually simply because i could not hook up with the most character, that's a foul factor for me regardless of how awesome the remainder of the e-book is. I do consider that tween/teen boys will devour this correct up or even ladies in the event that they love experience books. possibly if i am getting the time latter directly to end it latter on, i will see a special mild approximately it yet for now the placement is hopeless.Grade: N/A (didn't finish)*Stopped at web page 224 (chapter sixteen)*

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