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# Elemental

Tessa McMillan

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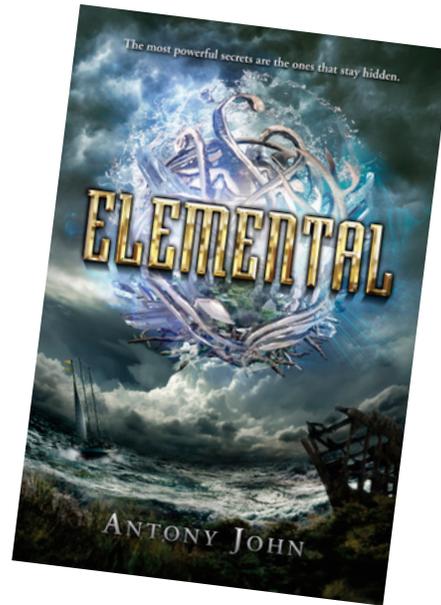
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# Book Review

**Title:** Elemental  
**Author:** Antony John  
**Reviewer:** Tessa McMillan  
**Publisher:** Dial Books  
**Publication Year:** 2012  
**ISBN:** 9780803736825  
**Number of Pages:** 326  
**Interest Level:** Young Adult  
**Rating:** Excellent



## Review

A plague outbreak in the United States caused all survivors to relocate to any outlying islands. One group of survivors living on Hatteras Island has the ability to control the elements—fire, water, earth, and wind—all except Thomas. When a storm threatens Thomas’s colony, the elders or Guardians, send the youth to Roanoke Island for safety. But after they arrive, Thomas sees smoke coming from their village. The youth return to Hatteras and discover that pirates destroyed their homes and captured the Guardians. The pirates see the youth and head back to claim them, but Thomas and his friends return to Roanoke for safety. Working together his group foil the pirates and take over their ship to free the Guardians.

John’s beginning novel to his *Elemental* trilogy is a heart-pounding adventure full of intrigue and suspense. Readers are introduced to Thomas right before his entire world is turned upside down. For his whole life, Thomas has lived as an outcast because he is not gifted with controlling any element. But after the Guardians are taken by pirates, Thomas taps into his survival skills to both protect and defend the few friends and family he has left. But mysteries about the colony and Thomas’s past stand in his way of a happy future. John’s story is completely original and refreshing when compared to other YA dystopian literature because disease, not a corrupt government, caused society’s downfall. *Elemental* is a great read for ages 12 and up.