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Five Kingdoms #3: Crystal Keepers

Tessa McMillan

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Book Review

Title: Five Kingdoms #3: Crystal Keepers

Author: Brandon Mull

Reviewer: Tessa McMillan

Publisher: Aladdin

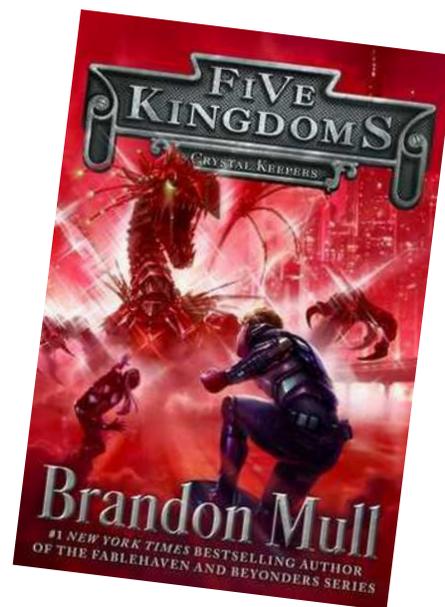
Publication Year: 2015

ISBN: 9781442497061

Number of Pages: 479

Interest Level: Intermediate, Young Adult

Rating: Outstanding



Review

After a rocky arrival into Zeropolis, Cole, Mira, Dalton, and Jace join the local Unseen resistance. But consistent persecutions force the Unseen to go deep for their safety. Once they meet Mira, their main objective is to find Constance. With Constance's star missing, Unseen leaders convince Cole to travel to Junction City and contact Queen Harmony. When Cole meets with her, Harmony asks him to spy on Owandell, a conniving royal official who introduced shapecrafting to her husband. During a secret cult meeting, Cole realizes Owandell is more of a threat to the Five Kingdoms than the High Shaper. Cole reports back to Harmony and she replaces Constance's star. On the way back to Zeropolis, Cole is abducted by the royal Enforcer, the Hunter. The Hunter is actually Cole's forgotten older brother, Hunter, who came to the Outskirts two years before. After much convincing, the two boys accept each other and search for Constance. When they find her, they meet the super computer, Roxie, who has watched over Constance. But Roxie goes on a rampage destroying the city in the name of protecting Constance. In the end, Cole and Hunter drop a bomb on Roxie to destroy her and release Constance's shaping ability.

The third book in Mull's *Five Kingdom* series places our heroes in a science-fiction kingdom where magical energy is used to establish a technologically advanced world. Yes, the group's mission is to save another princess, but Mull proves that even if his characters go on a quest to do repeated tasks, it doesn't mean the plot is predictable or formulaic. Mull pulls out all the stops in *Crystal Keepers* with Cole going solo to meet with Queen Harmony, rekindling his maimed powers at the Founding Stone, and getting captured by his prodigal brother. With the brothers' relationship, Hunter tries his best to convince Cole with physical and mental evidence. However, Cole accepts his brother after Hunter witnesses the High Shaper's corruption and risks his safety to find Constance. A read worth the ride. The fourth book is *Death Weavers*.