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The Rule of Three #2: Fight for Power

Cynthia Frazier

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Book Review

Title: The Rule of Three #2: Fight for Power

Author: Eric Walters

Reviewer: Cynthia Frazier

Publisher: Farrar Straus Giroux Books for Young Readers

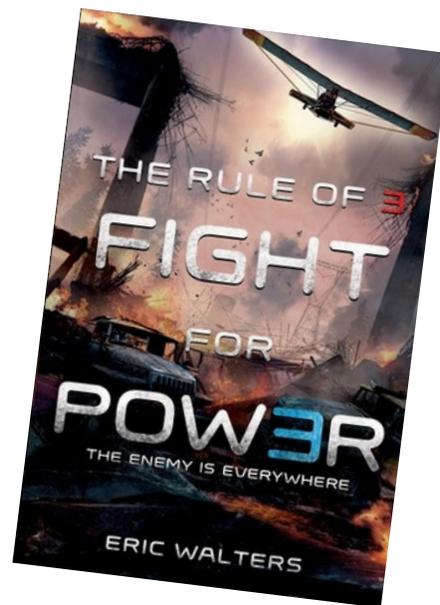
Publication Year: 2015

ISBN: 978034301798

Number of Pages: 352

Interest Level: Intermediate, Young Adult

Rating: Outstanding



Review

In this second book of The Rule of Three series, the people of Eden Mills are now 66 days into a world-wide blackout. The community continues to work together using their strengths and abilities to create a society that is as normal as possible in a dystopian situation. Herb the survival leader reveals a secret past that explains his knowledge and preparedness in the face of catastrophe. Sixteen-year-old Adam's most important contribution to the safety of the neighborhood is his ability to fly reconnaissance in his ultra-light plane which allows advanced warning of dangers. But mysterious and troubling deaths and fires outside the walls create anxiety and fear within. It is becoming apparent that a key and trusted member of the group may be a traitor.

Walters, an award winning and prolific YA author has written a thrilling adventure story. Though this book could stand alone, reading the first Rule of Three will connect the dots. It will also leave the reader wanting to know what will happen in book three. As was his practice in the previous book, Walters develops and expands his characters as the story unfolds. Teenagers Adam, Todd, and Lori mature in responsibility and leadership as they deal with the trying circumstances of their world. Adam especially is empathetic to people and circumstances outside the walls which creates tension with those who believe that to offer help would undermine the safety of their own group. The moral and ethical questions illustrated in this book could segue into meaningful conversations between parents and children or in a classroom setting.

*Contains war violence.