



2018

Five Elements: The Emerald Tablet

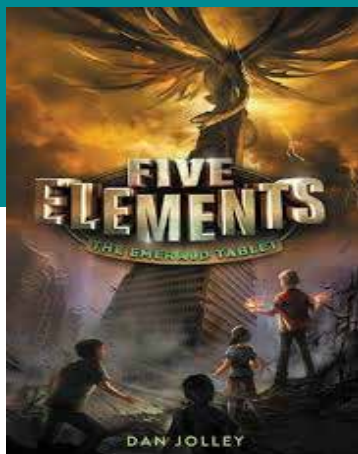
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Book Review

Five Elements: The Emerald Tablet

Author

Dan Jolley

Illustrator

Reviewer

Kenny Deem

Rating

Excellent

Level

Intermediate

Pages

291

Year

2016

Publisher

Harper

ISBN

9780062411655

Gabe lives with his uncle, a professor of ancient history, religions, and legends. In an effort to solidify their friendship before he leaves, Gabe's friends decide to do one of the rituals they'd learned of from his uncle's collection. Little did they know they were performing real magic and had each bonded themselves to one of the four elements: Air, Fire, Water, and Earth. Unwittingly, they have enlisted themselves in a long-standing war and must learn to master their new powers before they become casualties.

Within the fantastical story of magic and monsters, The Emerald Tablet tackles the themes of friendship, trust, and forgiving oneself. The characters are well developed, as they stay true to their natures while exploring and facing their inner demons and simultaneously battling external ones. Put in perilous situations, they must learn to trust each other more deeply and decide whether they can extend that trust to individuals they do not know as well. These developments occur seamlessly within the narrative, giving the characters a sense of depth and reality.

*Contains mild violence.