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The Atlas of Cursed Places: Deadman Anchor

Bailey Ondricek

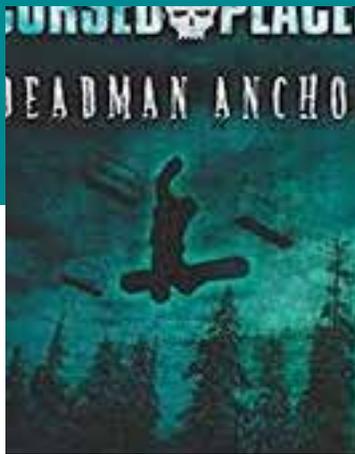
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Book Review

The Atlas of Cursed Places: Deadman Anchor

Author

K.R. Coleman

Illustrator

Reviewer

Bailey Ondricek

Rating

Dependable

Level

Primary

Pages

100

Year

2016

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Lerner Publishing

ISBN

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Kendal's strict father spends so much time away on military assignments that he hardly knows her anymore, but he's planned a trip to climb the dangerous Mount Hood as an opportunity for the two of them to spend quality time together. Mount Hood has suffered one catastrophe after another, and everything from the weather to the locals seems to warn that this trip is a terrible idea. After training, Kendal and her father climb to the top of the mountain, only for a tragic storm to hit on the way down. Kendal is miraculously able to use the little training she's received to save the lives of both her father and their guide as well as break the curse that has been dooming the mountain for centuries.

This book is essentially a caricature of a suspense novel. The first half of the book is filled with foreboding and foreshadowing, a very dramatic and dangerous climax, and an unrealistic moment where a child with little training somehow surpasses her lack of experience and saves the lives of two grown men. Reminiscent of the Magic Tree-house series, this text brings the same ideas of a young child saving the day with particular knowledge of the environment that none of the other characters would believe. While this book would not be one to read over and over again and discover something new each time, it is a great beginning chapter book for a young reader with a sense for suspense.

*Contains mild violence.