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Cherub Mission Three: Maximum Security

Audrey Lowther

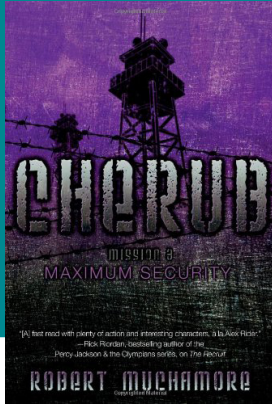
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Book Review

Cherub Mission Three: Maximum Security

Author

Robert Muchamore

Reviewer

Audrey Lowther

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Rating

Excellent

Level

Young Adult

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Pages

304

Year

2005

ISBN

9781442413627

Publisher

Hodder & Stoughton

James a 13-year-old Cherub agent, is sent undercover to a maximum-security prison. His mission is to draw out arms dealer Jane Oxford by befriending her son, Curtis, and helping him escape. Despite several kinks in James' escape plan, he and Curtis successfully break out and meet up with James' sister, Lauren. The three children steal across state lines and hide out with one of Oxford's henchmen before finally arriving at a hotel, where Oxford claims to have new lives waiting for them. Ultimately betrayed by Oxford, the young agent must work to contact their mission controller and keep a close tail on Curtis to complete their mission with Oxford's capture.

Although the settings of Mission Three: Maximum Security are fictional, Muchamore's detailed descriptions of the sprawling Cherub campus, the overcrowded, sweaty prison dorm, and other locations referenced throughout the book elicit strong, even physical responses from readers. Muchamore's well-developed, multifaceted characters help draw readers into his story. In addition to the reckless and sometimes crude behavior that may otherwise have made the protagonist unlikable, James demonstrates a number of positive traits; his quick wit, kindness, and the loving, supportive relationship he shares with his younger sister and friends in the Cherub program outshine his negative attributes and help make him more relatable. The plot of Mission Three: Maximum Security emphasizes the bravery and resourcefulness of children and teens, and the book's quick-paced storyline will keep readers invested and wondering what will happen in the next installment of the series.

*Contains moderate violence, mild language, and mild sexual content.