



## TEEN SERVICES COMMUNITY SERVICE TEEN BOOK REVIEW

### *The Dark Prophecy* By Rick Riordan Reviewed by Barry Sherlock

**Name:** Barry Sherlock

**Grade:** 8th

**Book Title:** The Dark Prophecy

**Author:** Rick Riordan

**Number of Pages:** 401

**Rating (on a scale of 1-5):** 4/5

#### **Character List:**

- **Apollo (Lester Papadopoulos)-** After the war with the giants, Zeus blamed Apollo for starting it and cast him down to earth to pay for what he did. He is the main character in the series.
- **Meg McCaffrey-** Meg is the 12-year-old demigod child of Demeter. She was the first person to meet Apollo after he fell. When she learned he needed to be in someone's service, she made herself his master. When she was little, her father was killed by the giant Nero, and he manipulated her into taking orders from him.
- **Calypso-** Calypso is the sorceress daughter of the titan Atlas. She lived alone on the island of Ogygia for thousands of years, until Leo Valdez, her boyfriend, rescued her.
- **Leo Valdez-** Leo is the demigod son of Hephaestus. He can control fire and is fire proof. He is the boyfriend of Calypso.
- **Festus-** Festus is the mechanical dragon that was restored by Leo Valdez and created by the Hephaestus cabin.

#### **Review:**

In the previous book, *The Trials Of Apollo: The Hidden Oracle*, when the giant war ended, Zeus blamed Apollo and cast him down to earth as a teenage boy named Lester Papadopoulos. Apollo begins to have visions of Meg Mcaffrey, his demigod master, being controlled by the giant Nero. Nero orders Meg to capture Apollo and bring him back to him before he restores the rest of the oracles. Apollo teams up with the demigod son of Hephaestus, Leo Valdez, his girlfriend, who is the formerly immortal sorceress Calypso, and their mechanical dragon Festus to find the last oracles and stop Meg. They meet two women named Emmie and Josie. Apollo, soon after meeting them, realizes they are the two formers hunters of Artemis that he saved and turned into minor gods many years ago. While with them, Apollo receives a quest from a goddess. On the quest, he is to rescue Josie and Emmie's daughter, Georgina, and attempt to retrieve the other oracles. Throughout the quest, he meets many friends, both old and new to the series. As his character develops, you can see him learning to be more selfless and kind to others.

The book is written from the point of view of Apollo. The narration is filled with comedy and it keeps you interested. Just like the other series that Rick Riordan has written, it has very interesting, humorous characters, and the plot is based in mythology. I think the author has a lot of expertise in this topic and writes about the subject of mythology very well. There aren't any major flaws in the story, except personally I thought it was a little slow in the beginning and it took

some time to get to the climax of the story. However, the quality storyline and well written characters stand out more than the flaws. I think that Rick Riordan delivers this topic better than other books.

I think that teen readers who are interested in fantasy books and the past series that Riordan has written will enjoy what this book offers. I think that this is a great book for anyone who enjoys this topic and would recommend it to middle/high school age readers.