Quarterly Review of Children's and Young Adults' Books

Author Pearson, Ridley

Illustrator

Reviewer Ptacek, Cher

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Classification Fiction

Grade level 3-7

Book Review: SHIMMER, THE

This is the first book in the <u>Inheritance</u> series, which is set inside a futuristic Disney theme park. Five teenagers, who live with their families in the EPCOT of Walt Disney's dreams, find themselves in a battle with the Overtakers, the evil Disney villains, in order to keep their park safe. On his 13th birthday, Eli Whitman mysteriously disappears into another realm. His friends band together to find him. Along their journey, they not only develop magical powers but also discover an astounding secret about their parents' past--one that will alter their lives forever.

The author keeps the story moving quickly, as he showcases teens as they experience life and slowly start to understand where they come from. They become part of an ongoing battle that once involved their parents. Their mistakes and triumphs emphasize man's need to understand and learn from history, or else be doomed to make the same mistakes. This is a good read and a useful springboard for discussion.

