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The Maze Of Bones (The 39 Clues, Book 1) - Library Edition



Synopsis

The first book in the #1 bestselling phenomenon sends readers around the world on the hunt for the 39 Clues! Minutes before she died Grace Cahill changed her will, leaving her descendants an impossible decision: "You have a choice - one million dollars or a clue." Grace is the last matriarch of the Cahills, the world's most powerful family. Everyone from Napoleon to Houdini is related to the Cahills, yet the source of the family power is lost. 39 Clues hidden around the world will reveal the family's secret, but no one has been able to assemble them. Now the clues race is on, and young Amy and Dan must decide what's important: hunting clues or uncovering what REALLY happened to their parents.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 610 (What's this?)

Series: The 39 Clues (Book 1)

Hardcover: 224 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Inc.; Library edition edition (October 1, 2008)

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Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 5.5 x 7.8 inches

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 413 customer reviews

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 7

Customer Reviews

Starred Review. Built around a ripe conceit— a wealthy matriarch scatters cryptic clues to a mysterious fortune around the globe— this first installment in a projected 10-book series is tons of fun. Lead-off hitter Riordan (*The Lightning Thief*) mixes just the right proportions of suspense, peril and puzzles in a fast-paced read (Riordan mapped the narrative arc for all 10 volumes, but other high-profile authors will be writing for the series, too). Likable orphans Amy and

Dan Cahill have moxie (plus Dan can memorize numbers instantly) and frailties (Amy hates crowds). As the siblings compete with less honorable members of the Cahill clan, all distantly related to Benjamin Franklin, to win the fortune by collecting all 39 clues (only two are found in this first book), they learn about their dead parents, each other and world history. The humor is spot on—•one uncle is credited with inventing the microwave burrito. The only flaw? The story does not end so much as drop off a cliff. (The second book, *One False Note* by Gordon Korman, is set to arrive in December.) While waiting, readers can collect cards, each of which contains evidence, and play the online game (www.the39clues.com), for which Scholastic is offering over \$100,000 in prizes. This ought to have as much appeal to parents as it does to kids—it's Webkinz without the stuffed animals, and a rollicking good read. Ages 9—•12. (Sept.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an alternate Hardcover edition.

Starred Review. Grade 4—•7—•When their beloved Aunt Grace dies, Dan, 11, and Amy, 14—•along with other Cahill descendants—•are faced with an unusual choice: inherit one million dollars or participate in a perilous treasure hunt. Cahills have determined the course of history for centuries, and this quest's outcome will bring the victors untoward power and affect all of humankind. Against the wishes of nasty Aunt Beatrice, their reluctant guardian since their parents' deaths, Dan and Amy accept the challenge, convincing their college-age au pair to serve as designated adult. Pitted against other Cahill teams, who will stop at nothing to win, the siblings decipher the first of 39 clues and are soon hot on the historical trail of family member Ben Franklin to unearth the next secret. Adeptly incorporating a genuine kids' perspective, the narrative unfolds like a boulder rolling downhill and keeps readers glued to the pages. As the siblings work together to solve puzzles and survive dangers, they develop into well-drawn individuals with their own strengths and personalities. Supporting Cahill cast members come across as intentionally exaggerated caricatures, adding to the tale's breathless fun. The book dazzles with suspense, plot twists, and snappy humor, but the real treasure may very well be the historical tidbits buried in the story. Part of a multimedia launch including a Web site, collectable game cards, and a 10-title series (penned by different authors), this novel stands solidly on its own feet and will satisfy while whetting appetites for more.—•Joy Fleishhacker, *School Library Journal* Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an alternate Hardcover edition.

Two of my boys have read this book. The 9 year old loves to read and truly enjoyed this book and plans on reading the rest of the series. It was fun to watch him try to predict the outcome! One of my older sons has an eye condition, therefore, reading is not fun. We allow him to read a bit and also listen (on Audible) so the eye doesn't bother him too much. Even though this series is below his reading level- he loves it and has read 3 so far. I generally read what my kids are reading...so I can say that I recommend this series! Great for reluctant readers!

I chose 5 stars because this book was awesome! It had all the adventure a book could need. I highly recommend this book for young readers who enjoy a story that takes place all around the world, competitiveness and a fight.

If you are an adult who likes to read a book before his or her child reads it then you will enjoy this read as well. Rick Riordan has done it again by writing an action packed adventure during which I couldn't help but laugh out loud many times.

I wanted to read this series before I got it for my grandson for Christmas. I loved the Harry Potter series and this reminds me of that in a new way. Could not put this first book down and will read the rest before he gets it on Christmas Day. It teaches children tons of historical knowledge without them knowing. Now, on to book 2!!!

The librarian had recommended to me that I read this book and I refused. Then one day, I had nothing to read, I read it, and now I can't put it down. I am on the eighth book and the series just gets better and better!

[illegible]

Grandkids loved it.

9 year old son is hooked on these books.- I bought this copy for my 8 year old nephew. He loves them now too. The series is great for the kids who like a little mystery and action - thrown in with some non-fiction (geography references - art references- legends etc).

I really thought that the plot of the is was very interesting. There was a lot going on and so it was kind of hard to follow. Fun to read though and I probably will read the whole series!!!!

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