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Alrin (The Alrin Series Book 1)



Synopsis

Perhaps the highest tragedy is that the one thing we all share is our greatest divide â the void within that drives us. Our insatiable desire for greatness is shadowed only by our overwhelming hatred for complacency. Whether for fame or fortune, aware of it or not, we strive for the highest rung only for our grasp to instantly crave the next ladder. Yet still we reach, for the void must always be filled. Seventeen-year-old Alrin Turner lives in a place where power is everything, and pursuing it is the only thing that seems to ebb the burning desire. Each person is born with three numbers on their hand that show the might of their strength, magic, and intellect, so seeing the full extent of oneâs power is as simple as glancing in the mirror. In a world teeming with such illustrious competition, qualities like kindness and humility are in short supply and Alrin knows it all too well. He cares nothing of power and holds firm to the belief that there is more to life than what is found on your hand, despite the relentless insults he receives for it. While hunting in the woods with his brother, a selfless act forces Alrin off the edge of a cliff only for him to stop feet above the ground by a flash of brilliant light and a mysterious symbol that appears over his hand. The source of this power intrigues a sudden benefactor, who takes Alrin under his wing to train him in his magic guildâan honor never before given to someone so insignificant. When mighty warriors start to appear in his town, Alrin not only learns that the power that saved him has been sought out for thousands of years, but like it or not, he has fallen into a story much larger than himself. Everyone he loves is either taken or cursed and Alrin is faced with an impossible task: delve deeper into the realm of power to unlock the riddle of the void and save his family, yet somehow cling to the part of himself that was worthy of power at the start.***Professionally edited and updated Aug 1, 2016. Actual page count 324.***

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Customer Reviews

Alrin is a fantasy novel by first time author Kyle King. The premise of the book is that every person is born with a triangle on their hand that shows their level of physical strength, intellect, and magic ability. Because this is on display for everyone to see, the entire populace is obsessed with leveling their abilities as high as possible. The protagonist of the book, Alrin Turner, hates the culture and wishes nothing more than that people could look beyond the numbers and see people for who they are instead of the numbers on their hand. One day while out with his brother, Alrin risks his life to save his brother and falls off of a cliff ledge. But instead of being killed upon the impact, Alrin is mysteriously stopped just short and a new unfamiliar symbol appears over Alrin's hand. Suddenly Alrin is swept up into a race against time and powers beyond his imagination, in an attempt to save the people he loves the most. I bought this book because it came up on my recommended list from . I read the write up on it and a few reviews and it sounded interesting. Once I got into it however, the story is less original than I had hoped. The levels or proficiencies of each person (or whatever you want to call them) seem remarkably similar to what you'd find in a video game or a round of Dungeons and Dragons. And aside from that small difference, this book is basically another fantasy coming of age / search and rescue novel. I saw where King had called the book allegory, but that's a bit of a stretch. I'm not sure anyone is going to get Christian allegory out of this one. All of the characters are underdeveloped, the setting is mundane and not well fleshed out, and the ending is very clumsily handled.

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