

The Mark of the Dragonfly

By Jaleigh Johnson

Annotation

Piper has never seen the Mark of the Dragonfly but she knows it means protection. When Piper finds a girl amongst the wreckage of a caravan with the mark she knows she will be rewarded. But can she survive the journey to the Dragon Territories?

Book Talk

Growing up on an alien world colonized by humanity, thirteen-year-old orphan Piper makes a living scrounging for scraps of metal and trinkets that fall from the sky in meteor storms. One day while out in the fields scrapping, Piper finds a living being in the meteor wreckage! Her name is Anna, and she doesn't remember much about how she crashed in the field, and she has amnesia about most of her life. However, Piper knows something about Anna just by looking at her and her unique tattoo—she belongs to the Dragonfly Territories and is protected by their king. If Piper returns Anna safely, the reward would lift her out of her poverty! However, the only way to the Dragonfly Territories is the 401, a beautiful old train. And tickets for the 401 are prohibitively expensive. They could always stow away....

Unfortunately a mysterious green-eyed boy stands guard against stowaways. It doesn't matter. Anna is being chased, and when what she calls the "wolf" appears on the train platform, she jumps on the 401, with Piper and the green-eyed boy following. Soon they are on their way to fulfill their destinies.

<http://www.mackinbooktalk.com/the-mark-of-the-dragonfly/>

Book Trailers

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZhH0erjphyk>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5qaLVquR3Vg>

Author on the Internet

- Website: <http://www.jaleighjohnson.com/index.html>
- Twitter: [@JaleighJohnson](https://twitter.com/JaleighJohnson)
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/jaleigh.johnson>

Items to use in a library display

- gears (steampunk themed)
- dragonflies
- train
- scraps of metal
- items to tinker with
- makerspace items

Book Club Discussion Topics

- orphans
- what is steampunk
- social classes

First Line of the Book

“Micah brought the music box to her on the night of the meteor storm.”

Non-Fiction Companion Titles

- meteor/ space books
- train books
- books on dragonflies

What to Read Next

- *Sky Jumpers* by Peggy Eddleman
- *The Book of Lost Things* (Mister Max #1) by Cynthia Voigt
- *The Lost Planet* (Chase Garrety #1) by Rachel Searles

Other Books by this Author

- *The Secrets of Solace*
- *The Quest to the Uncharted Lands!*

Additional Resources

- Poetry: check site poetrysoup.com for more poems
 - Night's sentry: https://www.poetrysoup.com/poem/nights_sentry_158591
 - As We Look Toward The Sky:
https://www.poetrysoup.com/poem/as_we_look_toward_the_sky_714358
 - Dragonfly --- Haiku:
https://www.poetrysoup.com/poem/dragonfly_haiku_761071
- Art/craft activity: makerspace items, printable dragonfly tatoos
- Interview with the author: From Random House:
http://www.randomhousekids.com/media/activities/Q_andA.pdf
- Lesson ideas:Random House-
http://www.randomhouse.com/teachers/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/MG_BTS_EK_15_EG_WEB.pdf
- From Illinois Read: <http://www.illinoisreads.org/images/2015IRGuideJohnson.pdf>