

**TRUST VALUE IN RICK RIORDAN'S NOVEL
*PERCY JACKSON AND THE OLYMPIANS:
THE SEA OF MONSTERS***

A THESIS

By

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**SUBMITTED TO
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APPENDIX

Author's Biography

Rick Riordan is the #1 New York Times bestselling author of over twenty novels for young readers, including the Percy Jackson series.

For fifteen years, Rick taught English and history at public and private middle schools in the San Francisco Bay Area and in Texas. While teaching in San Antonio, Saint Mary's Hall honored him with the school's first Master Teacher Award.

While teaching full time, Riordan began writing mystery novels for grownups. His Tres Navarre series went on to win the top three national awards in the mystery genre – the Edgar, the Anthony and the Shamus. Riordan turned to children's fiction when he started *The Lightning Thief* as a bedtime story for his oldest son.

Today, over 190 million copies of his books are in print worldwide, and rights have been sold into more than 37 countries. Rick and his wife Becky are both executive producers overseeing TV/film adaptations of his works including *Percy Jackson*, the *Kane Chronicles* and *Daughter of the Deep*.

Rick Riordan now writes full-time. He lives in Boston with his wife and two sons.

Characters

Percy Jackson

The son of Poseidon; a 13-year-old demigod who goes to the island of Polyphemus in the Bermuda Triangle to find Grover and recover

the Golden Fleece. He is accompanied by Annabeth and Tyson, his half-brother, on the quest. He is successful in the end and gives Clarisse the Fleece while he is attacked by Luke on his way to the Camp. However, he and his friends are rescued by Chiron and the Party Ponies.

Annabeth Chase

The daughter of Athena. A demigod who is 13 years old and a friend of Percy. She accompanies him to the island and helps him in his quest by rescuing Percy from Circe's island. Annabeth is injured by Polyphemus and recovers with the help of the Golden Fleece. She accompanies Percy to Camp after Chiron succeeds in rescuing them from the hands of Luke and the Titan army.

Grover Underwood

The guard for Percy given by the gods, a satyr who has been captured by Polyphemus during his search for the wild god Pan. Due to his poor eyesight, Polyphemus mistakes Grover for a female Cyclops. He is rescued by his friends Percy and Annabeth.

Clarisse La Rue

Daughter of Ares who was given the quest of retrieving the Golden Fleece. With the help of Percy and his friends, she is successful in her quest. Percy gives her the Fleece that she takes to Camp Half-Blood. Polyphemus wishes to wed her after it is revealed to him that Grover is a male satyr.

Luke Castellan

The main antagonist, now 20; works for Kronos. He captures Percy and the rest before being thwarted by Chiron and his brethren, the Party Ponies.

Tyson the Cyclops

Percy's half brother; he is initially portrayed as a homeless child before Annabeth helps Percy realize that he is a Cyclops. After being claimed by Poseidon, Tyson experiences a great deal of prejudice against his race, although he befriends Charles Beckendorf who trains him in metalworking. He accompanies Percy and Annabeth in their quest and befriends a hippocampus whom he names Rainbow. He is very big and has one brown eye. When Clarisse's ship explodes, he is presumed dead until it is learned that he survived due to his immunity to fire and Rainbow rescuing him from the wreckage. Displaying a talent in metalworking, Tyson accepts an offer to work in Poseidon's underwater Cyclops forges and he crafts Percy a wristwatch shield as well as weapons for the second chariot race.

Tantalus

An ancient king and the demigod son of Zeus who was cursed for cooking his son and feeding him to the gods. As a punishment, Zeus killed Tantalus and took him to Hades in the Underworld who cursed him to always suffer starvation and thirst which takes the form of food and drink always moving away from him no matter what Tantalus does. After Chiron is fired under suspicion of poisoning Thalia's pine tree, Tantalus is hired as the new activities director at Camp Half-Blood where he is shown to be sadistic and cruel, greatly enjoying tormenting Percy and his friends and blatantly showing favoritism towards Clarisse

La Rue. Tantalus reinstates the camp's chariot races and is more concerned with the outcome than the attack by Stympthalian birds. After Percy tricks Luke into confessing and exonerates Chiron, Dionysus dismisses Tantalus who is returned to the Underworld. In his last moments on Earth, Tantalus' curse appears to finally break as he catches a cheeseburger, but he is returned to the Underworld before he can eat it.

Charles Beckendorf

The friendly fifteen-year-old head of the Hephaestus cabin who goes only by his last name. Due to his father employing Cyclopes in his forges, Beckendorf lacks the prejudice towards Tyson that the other campers have and as a result, he befriends Tyson and trains him in metalworking. Beckendorf sets up the chariot race tracks and he faces off with Percy and Annabeth in the final race and is defeated thanks to Tyson's wristwatch shield invention.

Rainbow

A friendly hippocampus summoned by Percy for a ride to the *Princess Andromeda* who also befriends Tyson. He later rescues Tyson from the wreckage of the *CSS Birmingham* and helps to carry Percy and his friends to Miami. He transports Tyson to the underwater Cyclops forges of Poseidon at the end of the book.

Agrius and Oreius

The mythical bear twins who act as Luke's henchmen throughout the book. During Chiron's rescue mission, one of the Party Ponies kills Oreius with an arrow through the head as he prepares to rip apart Annabeth and Grover. Agrius is left so stunned that Blackjack the

pegasus can break free, kick Agrius in the head, killing him, and escape.

Circe

A Greek goddess of magic and the daughter of Hecate and Helios who runs a spa on an island in the Sea of Monsters. Over the centuries, she is shown to have captured numerous ships and planes that have entered the Sea of Monsters, also known to mortals as the Bermuda Triangle, and transforms men into guinea pigs while giving women a spa treatment. Many of the men are then sold as classroom pets while she keeps the most troublesome in a cage. When Percy and Annabeth arrive on the island, Circe transforms Percy into a guinea pig, but Annabeth can break the spell by using special multivitamins provided by Hermes which also make Annabeth temporarily immune to her magic. Annabeth inadvertently turns back Circe's other caged victims, including Blackbeard and his crew who overrun the island while Percy and Annabeth escape on the *Queen Anne's Revenge*.

Reyna Ramírez-Arellano

The demigod daughter of Bellona who appears as one of the attendants on Circe's island who looks after Annabeth. Although she is unnamed in *The Sea of Monsters*, she is identified as one of Circe's attendants in the book *The Son of Neptune* and *The Mark of Athena* with Annabeth specifically recognizing her in the latter.

Hylla Ramírez-Arellano

The demigod daughter of Bellona who appears as an attendant on Circe's island, specifically the one who greets Percy and Annabeth upon their arrival on the island. While she is only addressed as Hylla in *The*

Sea of Monsters, she reappears as the Queen of the Amazons in *The Son of Neptune* where Percy recognizes her from their previous meeting.

Blackbeard

The famous pirate who is also a demigod son of Ares. Captured and turned into a guinea pig centuries before by Circe along with his crew, he is inadvertently set free by Annabeth and he is left marooned on the island when Percy and Annabeth steal the *Queen Anne's Revenge* to escape. In *The Son of Neptune*, *The Mark of Athena* and *The Blood of Olympus*, it's revealed that he had subsequently destroyed the island's resort and escaped with Reyna and Hylla as his slaves before they forced him to let them go.

Blackjack

A pure black pegasus who makes a cameo as Luke's prisoner and unwilling steed near the end of the book. He makes his escape when Chiron rescues Percy, Annabeth, Grover, and Tyson, killing Agrius who had been holding Blackjack prisoner for Luke. As revealed in *The Titan's Curse*, Blackjack, crediting Percy with his escape, subsequently followed him back to Camp Half-Blood where he becomes Percy's loyal friend and steed.

Thalia Grace

The demigod daughter of Zeus and a childhood friend of Luke, Annabeth, and Grover who mainly appears through dreams. Several years before the book, she was killed in a monster attack and turned into the pine tree that powers the borders of the camp which is now in danger due to Luke poisoning it. After the Golden Fleece is used to cure the tree, Thalia is resurrected by the Fleece's power in another attempt by Kronos to control the Great Prophecy.