

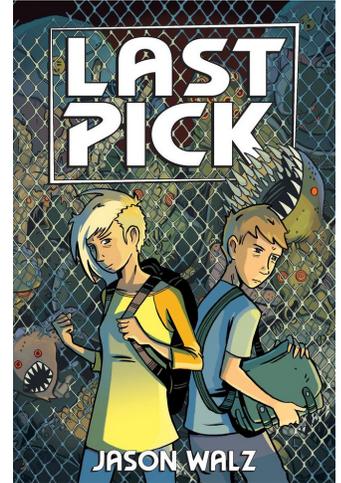
Last Pick

Jason Walz

GENRE: Graphic Novel, Science Fiction, Dystopian

BOOK SUMMARY

The book starts with a flashback to three years earlier that shows the reader how aliens invaded the earth and took control of the human population. The parents of twins, Sam and Wyatt, are shown preparing the children to be on their own, leaving us to believe that the parents will not be around for long. And sure enough, when the book takes us forward to the present day, the parents are nowhere to be found. The aliens abducted most of the able bodied humans to do work for them, but they left behind those they believed were not good enough for a variety of reasons: too young, too old, disabled, etc. Wyatt has trouble socializing and communicating with others, which makes the twins' search for their parents even more challenging. Sam and Wyatt run a secret radio station to communicate with the others who were left behind, and they smuggle extra food to those who are needy and don't have enough. Some of the aliens attempt to put a stop to their unauthorized activities, so the twins are on the run while simultaneously searching for their parents. The story is left to be continued in the sequel.



BOOK TALK

If you like science fiction, suspense, adventure, and graphic novels, this is the book for you. A set of twins, Sam and Wyatt, lose their parents when aliens invade the earth and abduct humans for slave labor. The aliens leave the young, the old, and people with disabilities behind, and the kids are on a mission to find their parents and feed those who have trouble caring for themselves. The aliens don't like the twins' subversive activities and are out to put a stop to it. The kids get some much-needed assistance from an underground group of adults who help them hide from the aliens and look for their parents. Check it out and find out what becomes of Sam, Wyatt, and the rest of those who are left behind.

LINKS TO HELPFUL WEBSITES

- **Official Book Trailer:** <https://youtu.be/JBiyINEA32E>
- **Official Website:** <https://us.macmillan.com/books/9781626728912>
- **Author:** <https://www.jasonwwalz.com/>
- **Teacher's Guide from Publisher (PDF):** <https://images.macmillan.com/folio-assets/teachers-guides/9781250228246TG.pdf>
- **TeachingBooks through INSPIRE:** <https://www.teachingbooks.net/qlz76hf>

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Can you think of an example of someone who overcame adversity to accomplish something? This could be yourself, someone you know, or somebody famous. Describe the situation. What was the adversity they overcame, and what was accomplished?
2. How does Sam show love and affection for Wyatt -- even though he doesn't let people in his personal space, and he doesn't want or need it? Chapter 1, pp 25-26.
3. How does Wyatt's autism help their situation throughout this book? Are there ways that it is a benefit? Explain them.

IF YOU ENJOYED THIS BOOK, YOU MIGHT ALSO LIKE

- **Graphic Adventure:** *Cardboard* by Doug TenNapel

- **Dystopian Survival:** *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding
- **Disabilities:** *The Reason I Jump: The Inner Voice of a Thirteen-Year-Old Boy with Autism* by Naoki Higashida

Resource guide created by 2021-22 **YOUNG HOOSIER BOOK AWARD** committee member:
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