

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



PATRICK CARMAN's previous books in the Land of Elyon series have all been *New York Times* bestsellers. He is also the Creative Director of PC Studio, a packager and pioneer of the multimedia "vBook" (video+book), a format launched in 2009 with *Skeleton Creek*. He recently authored the fifth title in Rick Riordan's 39 Clues series, *The Black Circle*, and is the author of the Atherton series. THIRTEEN DAYS TO MIDNIGHT is his first Young Adult novel.

PRAISE

"Patrick Carman is really, really good."

—James Patterson,
author of the Maximum Ride
series and *Witch & Wizard*

"A twisty, dark, never-know-where-you're-going tale of suspense that also grapples with profound issues."

—Judy Blundell,
National Book Award-winning
author of *What I Saw and How I Lied*

"What a fantastic read!"

—Gordon Korman, author of *Pop* and *Born to Rock*

"A wise, thrilling, dark and moving story."

—Michael Grant,
author of the *Gone* series

ABOUT THE BOOK



You Are Indestructible.

When Jacob Fielding heard these words, he had no idea his life would change forever.

Now, he's the holder of the world's most dangerous superpower and has just thirteen days to harness it before things start to get **deadly**.

THIRTEEN DAYS TO MIDNIGHT
By Patrick Carman

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READING GROUP GUIDE



The Grim Reaper
doesn't disappear...
he catches up.

THIRTEEN DAYS TO MIDNIGHT

FROM NEW YORK TIMES
BESTSELLING AUTHOR

**PATRICK
CARMAN**

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BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. On page one, Jacob chooses to let someone die, someone he could have saved. Why does Jacob think letting this person die is the right thing to do?

2. Jacob and Mr. Fielding's relationship is built during the time they spend driving every Saturday morning to find the perfect breakfast. What is ironic about the manner in which Mr. Fielding dies? What role does fate play in Mr. Fielding's untimely death?

3. Why does Jacob quit swearing? What does this say about his feelings for Mr. Fielding?

4. Why does Mr. Fielding choose to pass on the gift of indestructibility to Jacob? Is this gift a curse or a blessing? Is Mr. Fielding's reason for adopting Jacob connected to his special power? Why or why not?

5. Jacob, Milo, and Oh sense the need for secrecy and urgency regarding Jacob's special power. What measures do they take to ensure both?

6. How does the change in the relationship between Oh and Jacob affect the overall group dynamics? How does the change affect them each individually? How does Oh use Jacob's feelings for her to get what she wants from him?

7. Jacob's attachment to his power increases the longer he possesses it. Why does he allow Oh to take ownership of the power and to control how it is used? How does Jacob handle her possessiveness of the power?

8. The conflict between Ethan and Milo and Jacob escalates after Ethan leaves Holy Cross and reunites with his friend Boone. What finally happens to end the battle between the four boys?

9. On page 205, Milo tells Jacob, "We got Kryptonite." What does he mean by this statement? Who or what is the Kryptonite? How will the Kryptonite neutralize the power Jacob possesses?

10. The reader learns that Jacob did not know Mr. Fielding or Milo for more than a year, but Jacob trusts them implicitly. Based on Jacob's background, why is he so willing to trust these two? How does his trust prove to be wise?

11. Mr. Coffin and Father Tim know more than they admit, in fact, they never really tell Jacob anything. How much do they really know? How did they help Mr. Fielding when he was alive?

12. When Milo and Jacob discover the rules of the power, or the Black Lion, they realize how badly they have screwed up and how perilously close Oh is to death. Knowing the decision they make to help save her could also kill her, they follow through with their plan. What exactly is their plan? How is it supposed to work?

13. Jacob will never want for any material possessions because of the inheritance Mr. Fielding leaves him. Knowing what you do about Jacob, how will he use the money and property Mr. Fielding bequeaths to him?

14. What will be Jacob's most difficult trial in living with his power? What will he do to overcome that challenge, or if he can't overcome it, how will he most likely adjust to living with it?