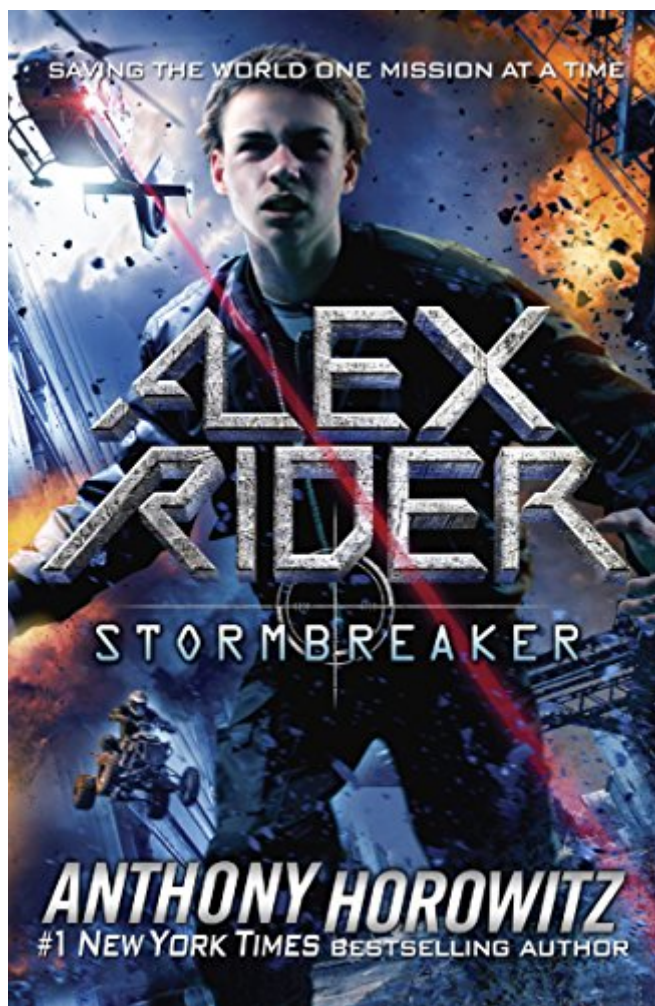


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Stormbreaker (Alex Rider Book 1)



Synopsis

Meet the Æ orphan turned teen superspy who's saving the world one mission at a time Æ from #1 New York Times bestselling author! Æ Æ Æ They said his uncle Ian died in a car accident. But Alex Rider knows that Æ is a lie, and the bullet holes in the windshield prove it. Yet he never suspected the truth: his uncle was really a spy for Britain Æ is top secret intelligence agency. And now Alex has been recruited to find his uncle Æ killers . . . Alex Rider's debut mission is packed with bonus material - including an extra Alex Rider short story, a letter from Anthony Horowitz, and much more! From the author of *Magpie Murders* Æ and *Moriarty*. Æ Æ Æ "Slam-bang action, spying and high-tech gadgets . . . a non-stop thriller! Æ Æ Æ Kirkus Reviews

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

YA novel that's well written and absorbing. I was reading this on the bus one day and missed my stop because I was engrossed in the book. I'm an adult who likes to read YA from time to time and

found this one a fun read. Good, tight writing, that keeps the plot going in a steady pace. It makes the idea of a 14-year-old MI-6 spy very believable along with the impossible scrapes he gets into. He's a normal teenager but with a good head on his shoulders. It's a nice break from the usual teenage girl assassin/vampire hunter/whiny-romance YA novels out there. My only quibble is I wish Alex's character was a tad more developed. I'm hoping it will get better as I read the other books in the series.

The characters are all woefully underdeveloped, even the hero of the book. The action scenes are passable, but the plot is sloppy. Who decided to publish this amateurish attempt? Here's hoping the author gets better as the books continue. Not that I will be reading them (to my kid). Even for children, life's too short to read bad books; there are too many better ones to switch to.

This was a great way for my son to do his summer reading. The story was one he enjoyed very much.

When fourteen year-old Alex Rider hears of his uncle's tragic death in an auto accident, he becomes immediately suspicious. Ian Rider had been a banker, a very careful man. He was also Alex's only living relative. Following up on his uncle's car, Alex discovers that the car is at a junkyard and is sporting dozens of bullet holes and blood on the seats that proves his uncle was murdered. So who killed Ian Rider and covered the act up? And why? Alex's quest for the truth introduces him to Alan Blunt, a spymaster for Great Britain's MI6 espionage agency. Caught while seeking further information, Alex is blackmailed by Blunt into becoming the youngest spy to ever work for MI6. Herod Sayles, a multi-millionaire, is giving away thousands of his newest computer, Stormbreaker, to the children of London's schools. Ian Rider was investigating the man and those machines when he was killed. If Alex doesn't agree to undertake the mission, Blunt promises that he will be sent off to an orphan's home, and that his housekeeper, Jack Starbright, will be deported back to America. Before he can adjust to getting blackmailed, Alex is sent on a three-week crash course training with SAS commandos. Yanked out of training, Alex is thrown headlong into the grinning jaws of death where he will meet a spectacular array of villains, including Mr. Grin who has had his face disfigured during a throwing knife accident in a circus, and a huge jellyfish. Anthony Horowitz is a successful writer of novels and television shows. His second Alex Rider novel, POINT BLANK, is out this year. In addition, he's written historical thrillers, THE SINISTER SECRET OF FREDERICK K. BOWER and THE DEVIL AND HIS BOY. He's also written a series of books involving the FIVE including

THE DEVIL'S DOOR-KNOB, NIGHT OF THE SCORPION, and THE SILVER CITADEL. His work for television lists scripts for POIROT and MIDSOMER NIGHTS, and he has created his own television show, MURDER IN MIND. STORMBREAKER is an exciting, easy to read, and hard to put down novel. The breakneck pace of the story draws the reader on, and the simple use of the language to convey the story make it that much easier to read just one more page, and another, and another. However, the simple writing evokes full images, cast and settings. And there are twists and turns aplenty in the story. Alex is very likeable, and he's very much like James Bond must have been at that age. Not only is he quick and mildly sardonic, but he gets equipped with a cutting-edge tech GameBoy equipped with spygear, zit cream that eats through metal, and a yo-yo that doubles as a winch, serving him as well as Spider-Man's weblines. Even though the pace is driving and the descriptions are wonderful, the book could have used a little more dialogue. The dialogue that the author uses is pretty much spot-on, but more of it was needed. STORMBREAKER is an excellent read for anyone interested in action adventure novels and spy stories.

My son read this book on his last day of spring break. He started reading it at noon on his iTouch and finished it at 6:30 tonight. It must have been a great book for him to sit still non-stop to read a book on his last day of freedom before he goes back to school tomorrow. In the first chapter, he informed me that the author already had written "the climax" of the story. I kept my thoughts to myself, smiling, thinking this must be a great book to already have risen to such exciting heights in the first chapter. And the book kept getting better. He has already downloaded the second book onto his iTouch to read later tonight. He heard about the Alex Rider books from the same friends who recommended James Patterson's Maximum Ride series to him. He loved the Maximum Ride books and was sad when he finished the last book in the series.

I'm going to be honest. I was a little bored of this book at the beginning, but when it got to the middle of it and hit the climax, it will have you shaking. Five star book for sure. I'd recommend this book to a few of my friends who read a lot like me, as it might be a little hard to understand at times.

Received before expected :) and quality as expected to. No complaints at all

My younger 6th grade son hates to read but is required to read for his English class - no trouble finishing this one and wants to read the next ones!

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