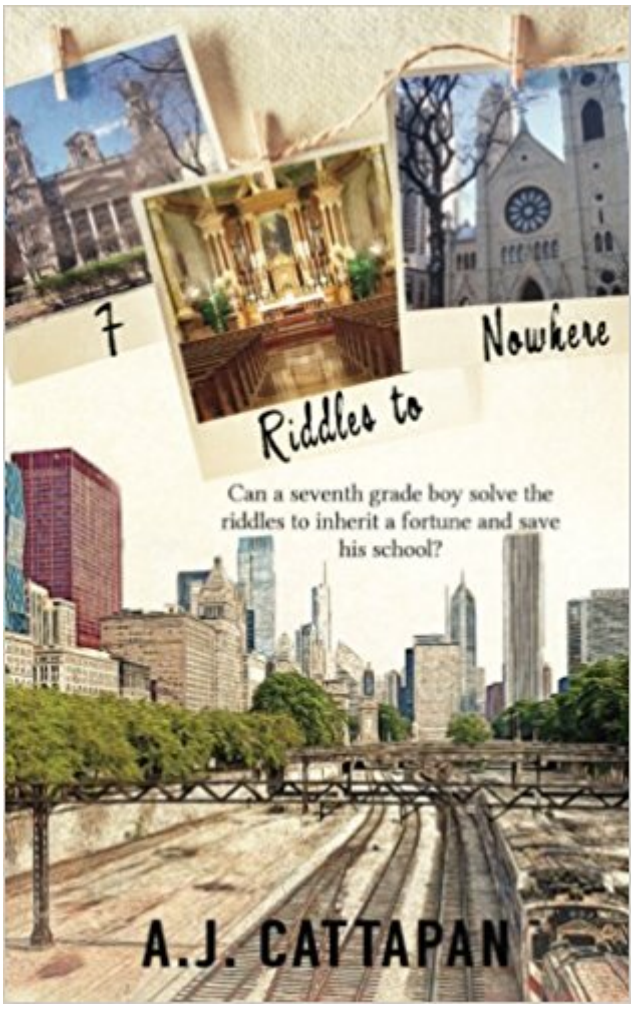
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7 Riddles To Nowhere



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Synopsis

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.Because of a tragic event that took place when he was five-years-old, seventh grader Kameron Boyd can't make himself speak to adults when he steps outside his home. Kam's mom hopes his new school will cure his talking issues, but just as he starts to feel comfortable, financial problems threaten the school's existence.Then a letter arrives with the opportunity to change everything. Kam learns that he and several others have been selected as potential heirs to a fortune. He just has to solve a series of seven riddles to find the treasure before the other students. If he succeeds, he'll become heir to a fortune that could save his school.The riddles send Kam on a scavenger hunt through the churches of Chicago. But solving them won't be easy. With the school's bully as one of the other potential heirs, Kam and his friends must decipher the hidden meanings in artwork and avoid the mysterious men following them in a quest to not only keep the school open, but keep Kam's hopes for recovering his voice alive.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"With a fast-paced story and compelling characters, A.J. Cattapan's Seven Riddles to NowhereÃ Â inspires young readers not only to spend time reading, but also to believe in their own ability to make a difference in this world. Highly recommended for middle schoolers, and the grown ups who love them!"-Lisa M. Hendey, author of the Chime Travelers series"A.J. Cattapan has a

knack for getting into the hearts and minds of middle-schoolers. Kids will be hooked from the first page (and parents tempted to read over their shoulders) as they follow an intrepid troop of friends on a quest to save their school. Seven Riddles to Nowhere has it all--action, cryptic clues, unique settings, and a hero every kid can root for."Ã¢â ¬Â¨-Stephanie Landsem, author of The Living Waters series"Seven Riddles to Nowhere is a blast, taking the reader on an exciting tour of Chicago streets and churches, while characters gain insight into mysteries and symbols of our faith as they struggle to solve riddles. The tension and suspense mount right up to the very end."Ã¢â ¬Â¨-Theresa Linden, author of Roland West, Loner"A fun and informative mystery for Catholic middle-schoolers or anyone who has eyed a Catholic church or cathedral and wondered about the meaning in its structural details and symbols." -Cynthia T. Toney, author of the Bird Face series "Seven Riddles to NowhereÃ Â will keep teens turning pages, even while they gain an appreciation for Church history, its rich symbolism, and the universality of the faith. Parents, beware! Your kids will want to stay up late finishing this book - and you might, too!"-Stephanie Engelman, author of A Single Bead

This book was a delightful addition to our grade school library. Besides having an enjoyable storyline, it shows the importance of Catholic schools, and how students of such schools should appreciate the blessing they have!It’s also nice to have wholesome books that are contemporary, since today’s youth tend to relate better to books in which the characters have cell phones!!

This is a fast-paced, kid-friendly, wonderful story about friendship and overcoming challenges. The riddles were especially fun and made even this grownup want to tour the Chicago churches mentioned in the book. Highly recommended for ages 10 and up!

My very picky and selective 14 yr old son devoured this book over the weekend. Highly recommend this book. So good to see a book with the theme of saving a Catholic school - a gem. Well done! PS His 11 yr old sister is reading it now and enjoying it as well.

Great YA book that will appeal to upper elementary thru adults. Characters well developed, dialogue good, fun twists and great ending. Heard there will be a sequel!!

This was the second book by A.J. Cattapan I have read, and currently there are only two available. And this was an wonderful read. When I was in university I did two different Children’s Literature

courses and I believe this book would be a great addition to either of them. The pace is incredible. The plot and story are both wonderful.When I started reading this book I thought about The Westing Game by Ellen Raskin, and a few paragraphs one of the characters compares the events happening to that same book. And as much as I loved that book in the end, it took a while to grow on me, where this book had me hooked from the get go. In fact I found it very hard to put this book down, I kept saying 'just one more chapter' until the book was finished in two sittings.As can be guessed by the title, and the comparison to The Westing Game this book focuses around seven riddles. There are a group of heirs trying to obtain a fortune. Now most of the heirs know the family story and stories about their quirky uncle Edward. But Kameron Boyd, Kam is not related, he is the mystery cousin. And the other cousins are searching for the treasure for the money; Kam wants to find the treasure so that he can save his school. Kam has been to five schools in seven years. He also cannot speak when adults are around outside of his home. St. Jude's has had declining enrolment for years, and though it does well on the state wide tests, and has great equipment the diocese plans to close it down unless the school can come up with a plan. And thus enters the 7 Riddles contest. Because of his issue talking this is the first time Kam has felt at home in a school and has real friends. And he wants to win the contest to keep that together.This story is part adventure, part scavenger hunt, part church history, part travel, and a whole lot of mystery. Kam and his friends visit 5 Catholic churches in and around Chicago while following the riddles. The artwork and layout of the churches are true to real life. Because of his issue talking this is the first time Kam has felt at home in a school and has real friends.The whole story takes place over a few days. The main part of the clue hunt is during a single day. Kam and his friends are wonderful characters. And the church history that is woven into the story is a lot of fun. Both of the 5 churches visited and the theology behind some of the clues and riddles.I absolutely loved this story and look forward to reading it again with my children. The oldest now and the others as they grow older. And I sincerely hope that we see more from A.J. Cattapan soon, I for one will be keeping an eye out for more reads and if they are as good as this we are in for some more great reading!

Here's a book that should be on the shelf of every Catholic elementary school library. I will be giving this book, a sort of National Treasure for parochial kids, to both my 13-year-old and my 8-year-old to read.A.J. Cattapan keeps the story moving quickly as Kam and company try to be the first to solve the riddles that will give Kam enough cash to save their little Catholic school, which is slated for closure. In the process, they'll have to outwit competitors, including some bullies, navigate Chicago streets and public transportation, and use their knowledge of the Catholic faith to devise the correct

answers.The characters are unique and well-drawn, including the selectively mute Kam. Having been a bit awed by people who had electronic voice boxes when I was a kid, Kam's horror/fascination with Old Man Englebert was among my favorite parts of the story.Throughout their adventure, Kam and his friends share both tenets of their faith and church history along with description of church architecture that made me long for a church tour of Chicago, which I learned actually exists!Highly-recommended for middle-grade readers and younger children who are strong readers.(The author is a fellow member of the Catholic Writers Guild, and I received an advance copy for my honest review.)

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