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|  The Last Book in the Universe  |
|  Written by Rodman Philbrick |
| “There are things to your life that are specific only to you. Secret things you know” quote found on page 20. I selected this quote because it applies to every single person. There are specific aspects of your life only you know. Secrets that are known only to you.  |
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Karyn Campbell 11/2/2012



1. The main idea of the first section of the book I read was how he met Ryter. Ryter was an old man Spaz was ripping off. What was strange to Spaz about Ryter is that Ryter happily gave just about everything he owned to him. Usually Spaz would have to force the person he was ripping off to give him everything. They had a conversation which led to Ryter finding out that Spaz had a great memory in a time where everyone ruined their brains and memories by using probes. Ryter then felt a connection with Spaz and maybe gained more hope for the future of the futureless world they lived in.

When I read about the kind of world they lived in it sounded so dreadful. Everyone is ruining themselves by using probes constantly. It was a relief that in an empty place there were two people who had a better chance than anyone there to change the future. I can relate to how Ryter feels about nobody reading. I know many people who refuse to read unless they are forced to. There are a large amount of people who read because they enjoy it. But I hope someday that the people who don’t read leave mind numbing television behind and find comfort in a book.

1. The next section of the book I read was about Bean and Spaz learning about her medical issue. Bean and Spaz are siblings but not blood siblings. Spaz didn’t know who his parents were. He had lived with another family unit since he was an infant. Bean was his best friend. Charly, Beans dad, felt uncomfortable with Spaz around Bean. So he left Spaz out on his own. Spaz goes back to his cube to find someone there. It was a latch runner there with a message for him. It was from Bean telling him she had a sickness and that she wanted him there for her final moments alive.

Bean and Spaz sounded like real blood siblings. They fought but they were close and loved each other. Lucky for Spaz that even though he didn’t know his parents, he wasn’t orphaned. I feel Charly overreacted a bit to having Spaz around Bean. Charly, Kaymom and Bean was all the family he had. He lost his family because of something that upset Charly, nobody knew what it was but it got him kicked out. To read that Spaz heard from Bean again was a bit exciting. It was such shame, that she was ill and dying but at least he would get to see her once again.

1. The third section was about Ryter and Spaz beginning their trip to see Bean. She lived far away. They would have to travel through a few latches to get there but they were taking that risk. They had to start by leaving the latch they were in. So they walked to a large pipe. A small boy that was attached to Spaz, because he had given him a choxbar, was following him. Ryter sent him away and they began their travel through the dark pipe. The little boy found them and they took him along. The three came to the end of the pipe. They climbed down a column to enter a latch with tall skeletons of once skyscrapers. They were then attacked by the monkey boys.

The trip to see Bean didn’t sound easy. The other latches would probably be more dangerous than Spaz’s own. It showed that Spaz has a great personality. Taking the risk just to spend the last breaths of his sister with her, and maybe if he could, cure her. It’s amazing what a young child can do with persistence. Because the little boy was starving and Spaz had given him food, he tried hard to stay with him. To hear of the skyscrapers in that condition was slightly depressing.

1. Their visit to Mongo, ruler of the monkey boys and the latch they live in, was the fourth section. They were dragged by the monkey boys to the tower where Mongo lived. The teks restrained the monkey boys and brought them inside where they bowed down to a hologram on repeat. Ryter got suspicious and asked to see Mongo. The teks were a bit afraid but they escorted the three of them to Mongo’s room. Mongo had withered away because he was looping continuously. Ryter saw that they needed a new leader and told one of the teks brave enough to go in to appoint himself as leader. The tek was grateful for his help. Ryter, Spaz and the little boy were driven out of that latch and into the next where they continued their journey.

The monkey boys sounded like little demons. They wore face paints and they sharpened their teeth and nails. It seemed a little odd that they would have people bow down to a hologram. They needed to hide their ruler from the world so they didn’t seem vulnerable. Why would these guards be so afraid of a man kept alive by only a needle stuck in his brain, and a fantasy playing over and over again? Who could live like that? Everyday living a lie, a fantasy, most would wish for that, just so they could think they were happy. But why can they not take the time to create real, living, physical happiness? You’re also destroying your brain by probing so much. Luckily Ryter gave the tek the idea to take over, because he was more kind and had the power now to get them out of the latch safely.

1. This section is about Spaz meeting the proov girl once again and the four making it to Bean’s latch but run into the Vandal Queen. When the three enter the next latch they find it is in chaos. The people of the latch were trying to steal everything from the proov girl, Lanaya. Ryter distracts the mob and Spaz helps her escape. They all manage to get out alive and drive to the latch where bean lives. The ruler of the latch is the Vandal Queen. She stopped them and refused them passage to Bean unless they performed a task. They had to turn in the probe runner. Probing was forbidden in the Vandal Queen’s latch.

Lanaya was trying to help those people in that latch. But they were so desperate for food they attacked her and stole everything. It was a clever plan Ryter had. Ryter always seems to be concocting the plans to get them or anyone else out of a tight situation. Lanaya was kind to help people, and to aid them on their journey. She was genetically changed to be perfect, she was raised to be a high class snob but she was more kind and courageous. It was very smart of the Vandal Queen to ban probing in her latch. That way everyone had their mind set straight.

1. Section Six is about Bean and her awful illness. The four of them escape the ongoing battle of the Vandal Queen and the crime boss. They finally make it to the place where bean lives. She is frail and dying. Bean ends up going into a coma and they feel all hope is lost. Ryter and Lanaya plan to take her to Eden to find the cure there.

The group was in the middle of the battle between the Vandal Queen and crime boss, and they manage to get out. They have finally reached their destination. Poor Bean, stuck with that dreadful illness, leukemia. Even though she was on the verge of death Bean just cared about seeing Spaz one last time. She slipped into a coma and everyone felt there was nothing left to do. But Ryter and Lanaya got the idea to search for the cure in Eden.

1. In the seventh section is about them attempting to cure Bean. They get to Lanaya’s home which is a large palace. Her parents take them to a medical center. There is a device that can change the scenery of the room to whatever. They try to find out about Bean’s illness through the machine and they find that it has no idea about what the cure would be. Then it is suggested they inject her with a gene that can fight off the illness

The story seems to go faster as I read. It’s exciting to see if they can cure Bean. Of course Lanaya’s parents aren’t too thrilled about seeing normal in Eden. But they allow it and help as well. It seems hopeless when the machine states it knows nothing about a cure to it. But at least the idea of injecting Bean with a gene came up.

1. The eighth section I read was about Spaz, Ryter and Bean enjoying Eden. After Bean was well again she learned to play chess and she got to enjoy Eden’s luxuries. Ryter sits at the stream enjoying the cool clean water. Spaz and Bean are in the apple trees eating the fruit. As they were enjoying it they were then summoned by the masters of Eden and taken to them.

The idea of injecting Bean with the gene worked and she wasn’t sick anymore. She didn’t have much of her strength, but she was better. Bean got to be in Eden and she walked barefoot in the grass along with Ryter and Spaz. It sounded like a beautiful place. It was the place that the rest of the world was missing. The three were enjoying their time outside. It was just Ryter dipping his feet in the water and Bean and Spaz eating the delicious apples. Then they were captured like prisoners.

1. This section is about the trial. They were normals in Eden and a trial was held to decide what to do with them. There were thousands of proovs attending the trial. Lanaya told them the story of why they were there. None of the proovs at the trial seemed to care. Ryter, Spaz and Bean were returned back to their latches. The little boy was adopted by Lanaya’s mother and hidden from the other proovs.

The proovs were kind enough to hold a trial, give them a fighting chance. Lanaya made many good and honest points about why normals are not any lower than proovs, but they were all too stubborn to listen. The proovs won the trial. The three were spared. Usually if a normal is in Eden they will be killed. They returned home but the little boy stayed behind. He finally got the home and family he wanted. They could care for him and it seemed nice.

1. In this final section it talks about Ryter’s death and who Spaz’s father is. Lanaya had made a point about the probes to the jury. So the proovs had discontinued all probing which caused uproar among the normals. The Bangers blamed Ryter and came barging into his home on their jet bikes. The tore Ryter apart using the jet bikes. Billy Bizmo, the latch boss revealed to Spaz that he is his father. It ends with Spaz hoping for a better future.

The proovs listened to one thing Lanaya said, and that was the probes. Some proovs were trying to get rid of the normals by giving them all probes. They stopped the probing which only angered the normals. It was horrible that they blamed it on Ryter. They were cold people to destroy him so painfully. It was wrong for Billy to not have told Spaz sooner that he was his father. But in the end Spaz had hope for a better future.