



Readers' Favorite® Book Reviews and Award Contest

Book Review Mini-Critique

Below you will find ratings (scale of 1-5) with descriptions for the major parts of your book followed by your Readers' Favorite review. Although these are general ratings we hope they will give you an insight into how others may view the different components of your book.

These are the opinions of your reviewer, and although your reviewer is not an expert literary critic or professional editor, they are at the very least, an avid reader of books just like yours.

Title: ARKO
Subtitle: The Dark Union
Author: U.W. Leo
Genre: Young Adult - Sci-Fi



Appearance: The appearance of a book can make a significant impact on the experience of a reader, whose enjoyment is often enhanced by an enticing cover, an intriguing table of contents, interesting chapter headings, and when possible, eye-catching illustrations.

5

Plot: The characters of a book should be well defined with strengths and flaws, and while they do not have to be likable, the reader does have to be able to form a connection with them. The tone should be consistent, the theme should be clear, and the plot should be original or told from a unique perspective. For informative books -- those without plot and characters--this rating refers primarily to your concept and how well you presented it.

5

Development: Development refers to how effectively you told your story or discussed your topic. The dialogue should be realistic, the descriptions should be vivid, and the material should be concise and coherent. Organization is also a key factor, especially for informative books -- those without plot and characters. The order in which you tell your story or explain your topic and how smoothly it flows can have a huge impact on the reader's understanding and enjoyment of the material.

4

Formatting: Formatting is the single most overlooked area by authors. The way in which you describe scenes, display dialogue, and shift point of view can make or break your story. In addition, excessive grammatical errors and typos can give your book an amateurish feel and even put off readers completely.

5

Marketability: Marketability refers to how effectively you wrote your book for your target audience. Authors may include content that is above or below the understanding of their target reader, or include concepts, opinions or language that can accidentally confuse or alienate some readers. Although by its nature this rating is very subjective, a very low rating here and poor reviews may indicate an issue with your book in this area.

5

Overall Opinion: The overall starred rating takes into account all these elements and describes the overall reading experience of your reviewer. This is the official Readers' Favorite review rating for your book.

5

Review: Reviewed by K.C. Finn for Readers' Favorite

ARKO: The Dark Union is a work of fiction in the science fiction genre. It is aimed at young adult readers and was penned by author U.W. Leo. The book follows Ariel Hyden and his friends when they visit the Yucatan with their parents as part of a secretive research project. As the kids spend their time exploring the ruins around them, they stumble across a dangerous secret that could define the world's future. As they race against time to find the meaning of their incredible discovery, a whole world of dangerous people begins to chase them down in order to claim the secret for themselves.

Young adult science fiction is a diverse and busy genre in which authors must work extra hard to have their stories stand out in the crowd. U.W. Leo seems to have cracked the formula for doing so in this novel, with a descent into an adventure that begins slowly before suddenly plunging its heroes into the fray. The core concept of the ancient yet futuristic technology that has a potentially vital role to play in resolving modern problems is excellent and emphasizes the idea that environmental issues are not a current fad, but an issue for all ages. ARKO: The Dark Union is an essential addition to the young adult library with dynamic characters, an emphasis on scientific realism, important themes for today's audiences, and an exciting story with enormous stakes. I recommend this book to all young adult readers, especially those with a taste for science fiction that contributes to the discussion about issues we face today.