



A fascinating first book in a genre-bending new series that draws upon sci-fi, religion, and philosophy and encourages readers to think big thoughts and ask big questions.

Five tweens accompany their scientist-parents on a research trip for the Mexican government, where they make a discovery that will, quite literally, change the world—or so we hope.

Exploring an area that had been occupied by the Mayan people, the twelve-year-old friends come upon a door disguised as a chiseled rock and descend into a space of technological and biological wonder. The structure is expansive and responsive, raising many questions for Ben, Ariel, Gaia, Abigail, and Amir. Where did it come from? Who built it? And why?

The advanced tech causes speculation about aliens, but the ancient images on the walls suggest ancient cultures had a role. Most perplexing is a collection of what appear to be dinosaur eggs. The scientists cannot resist the urge to hatch some of them, and to engage the tweens in an experiment that relies on the use of helmets to telepathically communicate with the creatures.

Although all try to keep this discovery under wraps, it quickly becomes evident that there are forces working to take control of the creatures and the caves. After developing a special relationship with the biotech spaceship known as the ARKO-314, Ben guides both tween and adult teams in combating the government, military, and business interests that conspire to work against them—and, in the process, against the well-being of planet Earth.

Readers will awaken to the environmental message that slowly moves to center stage during the latter half of the book. Israeli author Leo has crafted a unique story from a diverse cast, which includes characters who are Israeli, Russian, and American, Native American. The characters' knowledge of different cultures and religions is an asset to the team in sorting out the nature of this world-changing discovery. Several words and phrases from other languages are included; a word list with translations at the book's end may have been useful, but context provides enough clues for figuring them out.

Readers can look forward to the continuation of the tweens' adventure in the second book of this series, *The Cosmic Order*.