



[The Devil's Engine: Hellraisers](#) by Alexander Gordon Smith

Farrar, Straus and Giroux (BYR), an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group, 2015

ISBN: 9780374301699 (Hardcover)

*Age Range: 12-18 (Suggested by Publisher)

BOOK SYNOPSIS

From the author of the Escape from Furnace series, *The Devil's Engine: Hellraisers* is the opening salvo in an explosive new horror trilogy about an ordinary American kid caught up in an invisible war against the very worst enemy imaginable.

When a sixteen-year-old troublemaker named Marlow Green is trapped in a surreal firefight against nightmarish creatures in the middle of his New York City neighborhood, he unwittingly finds himself amid a squad of secret soldiers dedicated to battling the legions of the devil himself. Powering this army of young misfits is an ancient machine from the darkest parts of history. Known as the devil's engine, it can make any wish come true—as long as you are willing to put your life on the line. Promised powers beyond belief, and facing monstrous apparitions straight out of the netherworld, Marlow must decide if he's going to submit to a demonic deal with the infernal machine that will enable him to join the crusade—if it doesn't kill him first.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

★ “This Faustian tale is a hit for horror fans looking for a world of mystery, the macabre, and lots of fire and fighting.” —[Kirkus Reviews](#), starred review

“An epic conflict between good and evil . . . Full of dark imagery and unsettling descriptions as unstoppable demons face off against superpowered teens.” —[Publishers Weekly](#)

“Immediately immerses readers into a fast-paced, action-packed, epic good-versus-evil story.” —The Bulletin

“A YA horror knockout full of nonstop action, populated by broken but beautiful characters, and blisteringly scary.” —Emmy Laybourne, author of *Sweet* and the Monument 14 series

Praise for Alexander Gordon Smith:

“Smith is an expert at balancing tension and hope, keeping the audience on the edge of their seats.” —Publishers Weekly

“The Stephen King of YA horror.” —The Book Zone

Updated 5.20.2025

Macmillan Children's Publishing Group
Mary Van Akin, mary.vanakin@macmillan.com

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Author Website](#)
- [Author Q&A Compilation](#)
- [Author YouTube Page](#)
- [Mr. Ripley's Enchanted Books Interview](#)
- [Reactor Interview](#)
- [Transmedia Mutts Interview](#)
- [Reddit AMA Interview](#)

***A NOTE ON AGE RANGES**

A publisher-suggested age range covers the gamut of readers that publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate age range for the diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.

Updated 5.20.2025

Macmillan Children's Publishing Group
Mary Van Akin, mary.vanakin@macmillan.com