



BOOK RESUME: A WORLD WORTH SAVING

BOOK SYNOPSIS

Covid lockdown is over, but A's world feels smaller than ever. Coming out as trans didn't exactly go well, and most days, he barely leaves his bedroom, let alone the house. But the low point of A's life isn't online school, missing his bar mitzvah, or the fact that his parents monitor his phone like hawks—it's the weekly Save Our Sons and Daughters meetings his parents all but drag him to.

At SOSAD, A and his friends Sal and Yarrow sit by while their parents deadname them and wring their hands over a nonexistent "transgender craze." After all, sitting in suffocating silence has to be better than getting sent away for "advanced treatment," never to be heard from again.

When Yarrow vanishes after a particularly confrontational meeting, A discovers that SOSAD doesn't just feel soul-sucking...it's run by an actual demon who feeds off the pain and misery of kids like him. And it's not just SOSAD—the entire world is beset by demons dining on what seems like an endless buffet of pain and bigotry.

But how is one trans kid who hasn't even chosen a name supposed to save his friend, let alone the world? And is a world that seems hellbent on rejecting him even worth saving at all?

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

★ "Lukoff both explores and then subverts the chosen-one trope through A's battle with his personal demons... The resolution is both honest and hopeful. Powerful and awakening." —*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

★ "Satisfying [and] horror-tinged... This superb fantastical adventure tackles serious real-world problems faced by queer youth *via unique interpretations of Jewish mysticism that, paired with A's powerfully raw emotional journey, further flesh out the thrilling plot.*" —*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

★ "Protests, politics, and hate are given a magical form, adding layers of visual understanding and a bit of distance from the pain of these experiences... A must-purchase; this is a timely title for middle school students as well as parents, teachers, and librarians who are looking for powerful mirrors or windows into trans experiences." —*School Library Journal*, starred review

★ "Lukoff crafts a stunning powerhouse of fantasy and real-world issues... This is an excellent choice for anyone who is looking for *Hell Followed with Us* by Andrew Joseph White for a middle-grade audience." —*Booklist*, starred review

Title: A World Worth Saving

Author: Kyle Lukoff

Imprint: Dial Books

Publisher: Penguin Young Readers

On sale date: Feb 4th, 2025

ISBN: 9780593618981

Format: Hardcover

Age Range*: 10 and up

Grade Range: Gr 5-9

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*Publisher suggested age range covers the wide range of readers 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 range for their diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.

“Kyle Lukoff has given us something rare and beautiful—a novel that combines wondrous fantasy, searing real-world relevance, and a frank empathetic understanding of the adolescent experience that hits so viscerally I can only compare it to the way my generation experienced Judy Blume. The way Lukoff combines these elements in a page-turning adventure is nothing short of magic!”
—Rick Riordan, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Percy Jackson and the Olympians*

“This is a welcome fantasy starring a trans and Jewish hero that engages thoughtfully with both those identities.” —*The Horn Book*

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- An Indie Next Selection
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MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Educator Guide](#)
- [TeachingBooks.net Resources](#)
- [Mombian: ‘A World Worth Saving’ is the Jewish, Trans Tale We Need Right Now](#)
- [Hapers Bazaar Eight Authors on How it Feels to Have Their Books Banned](#)
- [Kyle Lukoff on Banned Books and Letting Queer Books Just Be Books](#)
- [Breaking Bans: A Celebration of Challenged Books ALA Booklist Webinar](#)

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