



# Worlds Apart

*James Riley*

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## **Worlds Apart** James Riley

Owen and Bethany try to find their way back to each other after the fictional and nonfictional worlds are torn apart in this fifth and final book in the New York Times bestselling series, *Story Thieves*—which was called a “fast-paced, action-packed tale” by *School Library Journal*—from the author of the *Half Upon a Time* trilogy.

Bethany and Owen have failed. The villain they have come to know as Nobody has ripped asunder the fictional and nonfictional worlds, destroying their connection. Bethany has been split in two, with her fictional and nonfictional selves living in the separate realms.

But weirdly, no one seems to mind. Owen—and every other nonfictional person—have lost their imaginations, so they can’t picture their lives any differently. Then Owen gets trapped in a dark, dystopian reality five years in the future, where nothing is needed more desperately than the power to imagine.

Fictional Bethany is thrilled to be training with her father as his new sidekick, *Twilight Girl*—until she realizes that the fictional reality will fade away completely without the nonfictional world to hold it together.

In this final installment of the genre-bending *Story Thieves* series, Owen and Bethany will be forced to risk everything to defeat Nobody and save multiple realities.

## **Worlds Apart Details**

Date : Published March 20th 2018 by Aladdin

ISBN :

Author : James Riley

Format : Kindle Edition 497 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Science Fiction, Adventure, Childrens, Middle Grade

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# From Reader Review Worlds Apart for online ebook

## Mark Baker says

With the fictional and non-fictional worlds now separate, Owen finds he has lost his imagination, not that he can imagine how that would be a problem. However, when Kara shows up and takes him 5 years into the future, he sees how things have devolved. Meanwhile, Bethany's fictional half is enjoying her new life until her father is shot by a mysterious ray gun. What is Nobody's plan doing? Can Owen and Bethany stop him?

If this isn't making sense to you, don't jump in here. This is the final book in the series, and it builds on everything that came before it. However, fans who have read the previous four books in the series will be delighted. We get another wild, fast paced ride. Almost all the characters we've met along the way are back for this book as well, and I loved seeing them all again. The climax is wonderful and wraps up the series well. Along with the fun and some meta laughs, we get some interesting thoughts on the importance of both imagination and reality.

Read my full review at Carstairs Considers.

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## Faith Lover says

[NOTE: Make sure you read both the part where Owen goes back in time AND the part where Owen goes to the future after escaping from the time prison before reading this book. (hide spoiler)]

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## Violet says

IT WAS SO BEAUTIFUL

UGH I CAN'T

Yes, we're going back to the feels thing for this book:

- The two sides of Bethany
  - CHARM FRIGGIN HATING OWEN FOR LYING
  - KIELANY
  - CHARM AND OWEN SITTING IN A TREE
  - JAMES RILEY BEING AN ACTUAL CHARACTER
  - That INFINITY WAR crap
  - THE UNCHAPTERED THING
  - OWEN BEING THERE WITH CHARM IN THE KIEL GNOMENFOOT BOOK
  - LEGIT EVERYTHING ABOUT THIS BOOK
-

## **Hannah Belyea says**

Owen and nonfictional Bethany are safe in their real world while fictional Bethany fights crime with her father and Kid Twilight. Unfortunately, as their worlds begin to fall apart, they realize that only by finally stopping Nobody can they hope to save their lives - and the universe! Riley brings this epic, if not a tad bit meta, series to a heart stopping close that is jammed packed full of action and surprises. An entertaining and heartwarming read that is sure to please fans of all ages!

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## **Kelsey says**

I loved this book so much! It was a great ending to one of my favorite series. I'm so happy all of my favorites came back (especially Kiel). It was so much fun to read and I just loved every second.

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## **Yapha says**

Book five of the Story Thieves series does not disappoint! James Riley continues with this meta examination of stories from both inside and outside, all wrapped in a non-stop adventure that will keep readers engaged. Includes some important commentaries on our times as well. Highly recommended for grades 4 & up. Must read the series in order.

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## **Jia says**

This series was seriously one of the best ever! It's just intriguing and action packed with a bit of humor here and there. Not only that but the emotions brought on by the characters are really strong (particularly when they get angry) and you feel as if you are the character while you follow their journey throughout the fictional and non-fictional worlds. Whenever the main characters (Owen, Bethany, Kiel, Kara, Charm..) come busting in ready to bust some villains I seriously get a boost of adrenaline. With the challenge to bring the fictional and non-fictional world back together their story starts out with the challenges of non-fictionals not having their imaginations to trying to put Bethany's non-fictional and fictional selves together to finally defeating Nobody and saving the fictional world. There are too many problems to count. Another thing I love about this book in particular is the impressions the characters who show up less often leave. It's the characters you don't interact with as much (Gwen) who helps Bethany get through many challenges. It's also crazy how the author incorporated himself in the story in such an impeccable manner- which I have never encountered before- that makes you question who wrote this book ,if you know what I mean, as well as gives it a really nice touch. I promise you won't be able to put it down! A great end to this series and one you won't be able to forget!

P.S. If you didn't understand half the things I just said you should just go read it for yourself and my personal favorite was Story Thieves Pick The Plot.

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## **Thomas says**

With *Worlds Apart*, Riley brings his *Story Thieves* series to an end. As expected, he takes the threads from the previous books and winds them back together into a single strand. Most of the characters from the previous books find their way into the story, and they interact in ways both expected and not. The book feels familiar in style and tone, but it isn't as compelling as the other books, which surprises me, since this is the culmination of the series, and the stakes are high.

At the end of *Pick the Plot*, the fictional and nonfictional worlds had been separated, and *Worlds Apart* shows what happens when they no longer interact. In the nonfictional world, imagination is stifled, and people are boring. When Owen finds himself drawn back into fictional events, everything starts to come together as he risks everything -- quite literally -- to defeat Nobody and rejoin the two worlds.

The book brings the series to a satisfying close, but it wasn't the BOO-YAH ending I expected. It didn't help that *Pick the Plot* was creative and exciting, both in structure and story, and *Worlds Apart* seemed to plod along in parts. I found myself having to force myself to return to the book, when the previous book had been one I hadn't been able to put down.

Obviously, anyone who's come this far with the series will want to see how it concludes, and I can't say that I didn't like the book, but it wasn't as fun as the previous books in the series. I'd still recommend the series to younger readers, and to older readers who enjoy the cleverness of books like the *Thursday Next* series. It falters a bit near the end (which is exacerbated by the Return of the King syndrome, where we get two endings too many), but the rest of the journey is a lot of fun, and it would be a shame to pass up the whole thing for that reason alone.

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### **Cindy Mitchell \*Kiss the Book\* says**

Riley, James *Worlds Apart* (*Story Thieves* #5), 479 pages. Aladdin (Simon), 2018. \$18. Content: PG (some fighting)

Nobody has torn the fictional and non-fictional worlds apart, leaving Owen and all other nonfictionals without any imagination, a splitting Bethany into her two selves. Fictional Bethany is reveling in being free from nonfictional Bethany's caution, but she is losing her battle against nobody's machinations. Nobody has a sinister plan to take control of both worlds once and forever. Owen and Bethany will need every one of their friends and foes to defeat the master plot and save both worlds.

Personally, I lost interest after book three as the plots became cluttered with characters and ever convoluted. Kids, of course, will want to read to the end. Heavy on exciting action, but short on character development.

EL, MS – OPTIONAL. Cindy, Library Teacher  
<https://kissthebook.blogspot.com/2018...>

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### **Yasmeena says**

BEFORE READING *WORLDS APART*:

AHH YES I'M SO EXCITED I CAN'T WAIT FOR THIS TO COME OUT I CAN'T CONTROL MY

EXCITEMENT

AFTER READING WORLDS APART:

R.I.P. Yasmeena Saeeda Elmahdy

Wow. What a wild ride. But this book. *This. **Book.***

So. My favorite series of all time ends here. ? But that doesn't stop me from loving it!

Faraway me: SAYS THE PERSON WHO IS FACING DEPRESSION NOW!

In the final book of Story Thieves by James Riley, Owen and Bethany try to defeat Nobody once and for all. Now, this was AFTER they'd negotiated on not going into books anymore, or dealing with any of this stuff. And they broke that promise/negotiation in, like, The Stolen Chapters. They try to defeat Nobody, but it gets even harder when Bethany gets split into two: all-nice, unicorns-and-rainbows nonfictional Bethany, and ambitious, I-just-wanna-beat-you-up-now fictional Bethany, aka Twilight Girl. Despite the fact that they hate each other's guts, they have to merge into one. Owen goes five years into the future, with Kara, and he faces Dr. Verity, and chaos breaks out later on.

I wanted to read this time by time and verrrry slowly to “devour this story because it’s the last one.”

But I just **couldn’t put it down.**

I loved it when a few characters would emerge after not seeing them for so long. One of them came, and he’s my favorite, and I was like “Yes. Yes! YES!”

Let's just say half of the whole class stared at me. The other half was busy playing Fortnite.

Also, throughout, I was thinking, *How many times did I cry?* I didn’t count :/  
Or how many times I got interrupted during like every part of the book, I got frustrated?

And the SHIPS! ARE! SAILING!

And I feel like I’m there with the characters.

Like:

When Charm gets mad, I go sympathetic for the person getting ratted out by her (\*cough\* Owen \*cough\*).

When Kiel cracks a joke, or a casual line in a chaotic event, I laugh my head off. When Owen is crying, I put the book down and just sulk and cry. When Bethany is worried, I get worried with her. When there is a miracle (\*cough\* basically about every chapter \*cough\*) I put the book down and scream:

YESSSSSSSSSS!

See what I mean? It was that lit.

I was in math class, with teardrops marking the book pages.

Yay me.

Do I recommend this?

Here's my answer:

Kiel is my husband he says yes

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### **Shivantika says**

This book was SO GOOD!!!!!! I could not put it down and finished it in two days! It is the best possible ending for a series and I highly recommend it!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I LOVE IT!!!!!!!!

CHOWEN FOR LIFE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

And this book is DEFINITELY my fav of the series....

Action packed, funny, I COULD NOT PUT IT DOWN!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I'M ALSO HAPPY KARA AND CHARM COME BACK!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

AND CHARM FINDS OUT ITS OWEN AND SHE CRIES WHEN HE ALMOST DIES AND

AAAAAAAAAAAAHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!!!!!!!!!!!!

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### **Amelia White says**

**It was great!!!**

Great

Great

GREAT!

Fsggbagagagsvvavava. Available again again wow was gas gas awww vs ava w wav a awesome. What www

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### **devin says**

mind blown

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### **Christine says**

*KIELANY!*

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### **Lemon Orange says**

This was pretty great. :D Endings always make me sad, and this one did, but it was still fantastic.

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