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Michael Vey 2: Rise Of The Elgen



Synopsis

Michael must save his mother and protect his powers in the electric sequel to the #1 New York Times bestselling *Michael Vey*, from Richard Paul Evans. I rolled over to my back, struggling for breath. The pain continued to pulse through my body a heavy throb followed by a sharp, crisp sting. The man said, "Trust me, there are worse things in this world than Cell 25. Michael, Taylor, Ostin, and the rest of the Electroclan have escaped from the Elgen Academy in Pasadena and are headed back to Idaho to plan their next move. But what's waiting for them there will change everything. After using their wits and powers to narrowly escape an Elgen trap, a mysterious voice leads the Electroclan to the jungles of Peru in search of Michael's mother. Once there, they discover that Dr. Hatch and the Elgen are far more powerful than anyone realizes; entire countries have begun to fall under their control. Only the Electroclan and an anonymous voice now stand in the way of the Elgen's plan for global domination. But is the voice that Michael is following really an ally, or is it just another Elgen trap?

Book Information

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Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Richard Paul Evans is the number one international bestselling author of *The Christmas Box* and seventeen consecutive New York Times bestsellers. He is also the winner of the American Mothers

Book Award and two first-place Storytelling World Awards.

Michael Vey 2 In fifth grade my English teacher, Ms. Berg, was teaching about autobiographies and had us each write our life story on a single page of lined paper. I'm not sure which is more pathetic: (a) That Ms. Berg thought our lives could be summed up on one page, or (b) I could fill only half the page. Let's face it, in fifth grade you're still kind of waiting for life to begin. Yeah, some of the kids had done cool things, like one had gone skydiving; another had been to Japan; and one girl's father was a plumber and she got to be in her dad's TV commercial waving a plunger, so she's kind of famous—but that's about as cool as it got. All I remember is that my autobiography was super lame. It went something like: My name is Michael Vey, and I'm from a town you've never heard of—Meridian, Idaho. My father died when I was eight, and my mother and I have moved around a lot since then. I like to play video games. Also, I have Tourette's syndrome. I'm not trying to be funny, I really do. You probably know that Tourette's makes some of us swear a lot, which would have made my story more interesting, or maybe got it banned, but I don't swear with my Tourette's. In my case, Tourette's just means I have a lot of tics, like I blink, gulp, make faces, stuff like that. That's about it. As far as life stories go, no one's called to buy the movie rights. They might if they knew my secret—the secret I've hidden for most of my life and the reason my mom and I keep having to move. I'm electric. So are you, of course. That's how your brain and muscles work. But the thing is, I have probably a thousand times more electricity than you. And it seems to be growing stronger. Have you ever rubbed your feet on a carpet, then shocked someone? Multiply that by a thousand and you'll get an idea of what it's like to be me. Or shocked by me. Fortunately, I've learned to control it. I'm fifteen years old now and a lot has happened since the fifth grade. I kind of wish someone would ask me to write my life story now, because it would make a good movie. And it would take up way more than one page. This is how it would go: My name is Michael Vey, and I'm more electric than an electric eel. I always thought I was the only one in the world like me, but I'm not. I just found out that there were originally seventeen of us. And the people who made us this way, the Elgen, are hunting us down. You might say we were an accident. The Elgen Corporation created a machine called the MEI (short for Magnetic Electron Induction), to be used for finding diseases and abnormalities in the body. Instead it created abnormalities—us. My girlfriend, the way-out-of-my-league cheerleader with perfect brown eyes, Taylor Ridley, is also electric. I can shock people (I call it

“pulsing” (she calls it “rebooting”). She can also read minds, but she has to touch you to do it. One month ago the Elgen, led by a scary dude named Dr. Hatch, found us. They kidnapped Taylor and tried to get me, too, but ended up with my mother instead. A few days later I went to California with my best friend, Ostin Liss (he and I live in the same apartment building, and he’s one of the few people who knows about my powers), and a couple of kids from my school, Jack and Wade, to save Taylor and my mother. Things didn’t go so well. In the first place, Taylor was there but my mother wasn’t. Then we got caught. Jack and Wade were forced to be GPs, which is short for human guinea pigs, the name the Elgen give their prisoners they experiment on. Ostin and I were locked up too, though I was put in Cell 25, the place they put people to break their minds. I managed to escape and rescue my friends. I was also able to rescue four of the other electric kids: Zeus, Ian, McKenna, and Abigail. They have some pretty cool powers too. Zeus can shoot lightning bolts, which is why he’s named after the Greek god. (But he can’t touch water without shocking himself, so he doesn’t bathe much—actually, never—so he kind of smells.) Ian’s blind but he can see way better than any of us. He sees the same way sharks and electric eels do, through electrolocation—which means he can see things that are miles away, even through walls. McKenna can create light and heat from any part of her body. Abigail can take away pain by electrically stimulating nerve endings. We also rescued Grace. She was one of the electric kids who were loyal to Hatch (who calls us Glows). I don’t know much about her other than that she can download things from computers and she downloaded all the information from the Elgen’s mainframe before we escaped. We’re hoping she has information on where the Elgen have taken my mother. There are ten of us now (including our nonelectric friends Ostin, Jack, and Wade). We call ourselves the Electroclan. There’s one more thing I would put in my autobiography, something that scares me but would make my story more interesting. I don’t know for sure, but I may be dying. Hatch told me that four of the electric children have already died of cancer caused by their electricity—and I have more electricity than any of them. I don’t know if it’s true because Hatch is a liar. I guess time will tell. In the meanwhile we’re headed back to my home in Meridian, Idaho, to figure out where my mother is and plan our next move. Like I said, I think my story would make a pretty good movie so far. Maybe it will be one day. But not yet, because it’s not even close to being over. And I have a feeling that things are about to get a whole lot wilder. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

This is a great series. My 11 year-old grandson received the first book in this series as a Christmas gift. He was on vacation when he got around to reading it. However his two 10 year-old cousins got into the book too and he could never seem to get it back from them. Now all three are hooked on these books. Two of the boys have finished book 6. So the books are exciting. They have some violence in them, like people and animals getting eaten by rats for example, so it might give some kids nightmares. I have finished the first two books now and just ordered the third one. Fun read even for an adult if you just want to escape into a book.

The story seemed to lag in quite a few places...or perhaps I just wasn't in the mood. However, the fast paced action at the end did not disappoint. While I had determined about mid-way through not to read any more of this series, the action-packed ending was a real cliff hanger that makes you want to read on. Really, my grandson liked the first book and I wanted to keep up with his reading of the series. It is awkward to place a reading audience with the boy-girl relationships of the Electroclan characters; innocent enough for younger readers...pretty silly for older readers. The first book was okay for advanced younger readers, although I was never keen on the torture. I did not care for this second book at all for the younger age group. The torture against humans imprisoned by the evil Elgen reached a new high and had gotten pretty sinister, graphic, and violent. Definitely would not recommend it for ages under middle school, and with intermediate readers it depends on the sensitivity of the reader. In all fairness, I concede that it is quite possible that the generation gap is showing up big time here in my thinking. Young readers today are an entirely new breed because of the prevalent exposure to violence in our culture. Concerned parents/grandparents who want their children to remain sensitized against violence should read the series first.

I checked the kindle app on my tablet last night at around 11:30pm and was excited to see Michael Vey 2 start downloading. I began reading immediately and finished the novel around 3:45 this morning... Yep, it was gripping, well-paced and exciting. I won't issue any spoilers, but I highly recommend this novel to adults (I'm 34) and adolescents alike for a few specific reasons. First, it is well-written and enjoyable as a work of fiction. Second, the heroes are truly heroic as a result of the choices they make not simply because they have powers. In fact some of the most heroic choices are made by those with no powers. And finally, who hasn't imagined what it would be like to have superpowers and punch Nazis (I mean Elgen) in the face! Well done Richard Paul Evans! I want more!!

Richard Paul Evans has created a wonderful tale around some great young heroes. The book goes a little darker as well does Dr. Hatch, who is bent on Michael's destruction. Michael and his friends are also growing up and taking on a lot more responsibilities. They are learning that their actions have consequences. This one will test their friendships and their spirits. This series is great for struggling readers who hate to read but are learning that books can be as enjoyable as a video game or a movie. I use the hard copy as well as the audio with my students and it's a great pare up. My students have read the first book, and loved it, I'm sure that they will love this one just as much. Go Electro Clan!

My son struggles with school and hates to read. His teacher gave him the first one in this series and made him read it with the teacher's aid everyday. About half way into the book he started coming home telling me what happened in his book that day. So when it was getting to the end he asked if I could get him this one so I got it for his tablet and he read it at home by himself and is now started on book three. Thank you so much for this awesome gift you have given me Mr. Evans because of you my son is reading on his free time and loving!

This is the best book of the 3 Michael Vey books so far. The plot is more developed, the characters seem more real, and they are certainly more interesting in the ways their powers are used, and they are still teenagers, maturing and getting to be more complex. The non-electric teens are well drawn and add an interesting aspect as we ordinary humans can relate to them and are proud when they make significant contributions to overcome evil. The absolute best scene in all the three books is the lowering of the bound Michael into the rat pit to be eaten, but due to the enhancement of his powers through his friends and his own courage, he just blows away all the bad guys who are gleefully watching his upcoming torture and death. It is the ultimate revenge scene when he just melts through everything, wipes out the rats, throws lightning balls at Hatch and company, and just kicks butt, destroying the whole electric factory. That scene will definitely make it into the movie. It is made for Hollywood! The one thing that seems a little unbelievable to me is that so many thousands of men acting as guards, who are misused and abused by Hatch, just never rebel. Yes, they fear for their lives and perhaps their families, but I don't believe that humans can put up with tyranny for so long with no cracks in their loyalty to the villain. This is a much better book overall than the first one. Better plot, characters and creativity.

I was shocked by the ending - did not see this coming. These are very well-written, detailed books. I started reading them after my grandson asked me to buy one of the books for him. These are along the line of Maze Runner, Hunger Games and Divergent. I like the characters in this series of books because they are not as violent and find ways to handle things without taking others' lives in the process. They are not as dark or hopeless either, but the lead character is an excellent role model for the teen group of boys.

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