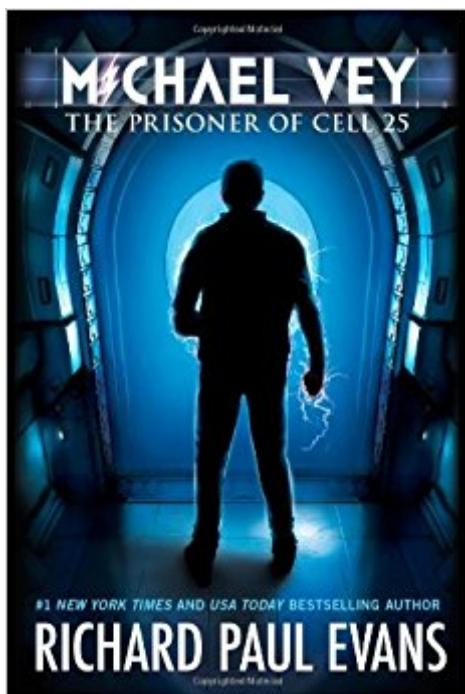


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# Michael Vey: The Prisoner Of Cell 25 (Book 1)



## **Synopsis**

The start of an action-packed teen series from #1 New York Times bestselling author Richard Paul Evans. To everyone at Meridian High School, fourteen-year-old Michael Vey is nothing special, just the kid who has Tourette's syndrome. But in truth, Michael is extremely special—he has electric powers. Michael thinks he is unique until he discovers that a cheerleader named Taylor has the same mysterious powers. With the help of Michael's friend, Ostin, the three of them set out to discover how Michael and Taylor ended up with their abilities, and their investigation soon brings them to the attention of a powerful group who wants to control the electric teens—and through them, the world. #1 New York Times bestselling author Richard Paul Evans introduces a character whose risk-filled exploration marks the beginning of a riveting new series. With only his powers, his wits, and his friends to protect him, Michael will need all his strength to survive. Michael Vey is the first title in Glenn Beck's Mercury Ink publishing program.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: HL500L (What's this?)

Series: Michael Vey (Book 1)

Paperback: 352 pages

Publisher: Simon Pulse/Mercury Ink; Reprint edition (July 10, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1442468122

ISBN-13: 978-1442468122

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.9 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 1,377 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #9,605 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #28 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Action & Adventure > Mystery & Thriller #38 in Books > Teens > Mysteries & Thrillers > Thrillers & Suspense #48 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Action & Adventure > Science Fiction

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## **Customer Reviews**

Michael Vey: The Prisoner of Cell 25 by Richard Paul Evans Reviewed by John M. Wills Released:

August 9, 2011 Publisher: Simon Pulse (336 pages) .". . . my 13-year-old grandson picked it up and began reading the first chapter after I had put it down. He remarked, "Papa, hurry up and finish reading this, I want to see where this story goes." I already know where this is all going: "Michael Vey: The Prisoner of Cell 25" is going to be another bestseller for Richard Paul Evans. The book is electric." Having read much of Richard Paul Evans's work, I knew to expect a wonderful story; however, I admit I was skeptical about reading a novel geared toward children 12 years old and up. My skepticism disappeared quickly as I began reading about the book's protagonist, Michael Vey. Author Evans has created a character that will entertain both adults and children. I found myself absorbed in the story just several pages in. Michael Vey is, ostensibly, an average teenager, 14 years old, who has the same problems as others in that awkward age group. He finds himself the victim of bullying, mostly due to his facial tics, a result of Tourette's. He doesn't fit in with most kids in school, and the girls avoid him whenever possible. His only friend, Ostin, the class brain--and therefore a nerd to the school jocks--also endures endless bouts of pranks and teasing. The two likeable adolescents form a bond that enables them to endure the constant gauntlet laid down by their classmates. At one point in the story an incident occurs in which Michael discovers he has a secret power--he's electric. Although his mother has known this about her son for some time, Michael is just now discovering his abnormal abilities can be used to his advantage. As the story develops, Mr. Evans creates moral dilemmas that Michael and his friends must face. Questions of ethics and evil versus good become pivotal points and serve to develop a moral comp5Q 4P M J Evans, Richard Paul. Michael Vey: The Prisoner of Cell-25. Simon Pulse, 2011. 336p. \$17.99. 978-1-4516-5650-3. Ninth grade can be brutal, especially if you are an undersized boy dealing with Tourette's syndrome. Add bullies, disingenuous authority figures, a geeky best friend, a loving but financially strapped parent, and you have a relatable protagonist who just happens to have an amazing superpower. Michael Vey can zap people with electricity. With his mother's help, he has been able to keep his "mutation" a secret until the eventful day when popular cheerleader, Taylor, witnesses him defending himself against three tormentors. This event sets into action a chain of discoveries, deceit, and destruction that brings together an unlikely group of young people who must work together to save themselves and others. Throughout these adventures, the author interweaves a plausible scientific explanation for Michael's powers: sixteen years ago, seventeen babies were inadvertently given special abilities. Now, evil powerbrokers want to use these young people to cause international mayhem and gain wealth through extortion. Short chapters with intriguing titles, excellent writing, and engaging characters make this action-packed story a compulsively entertaining read. The tale progresses with altering points of view. Michael tells his

story in first-person and Taylor's tale is narrated in third-person. This first book of a planned series has a satisfying conclusion but leaves the reader determined to discover what the next book, *Rise of the Electroclan*, has in store for our young hero and his friends. Though contemporary and edgy, this book contains no bad language, sex, or gratuitous violence. This is a book Rick Riordan's fans will want to read. VOYA, October 2011 "Michael Vey: Prisoner of Cell 25", "" by Richard Paul Evans, is one of those books that you'd better give yourself time to read because once you begin, you won't stop! Michael Vey goes to high school in Idaho where he's keeping a secret. He has strange electric powers and soon discovers there's another girl who has similar powers. When both the girl and his mom are kidnapped, the action accelerates! There are more books planned in this series."Newton Book News" Evans, Richard Paul Michael Vey: The Prisoner of Cell 25 2011. 336pp. \$17.99 hc. Simon Pulse (Simon & Schuster). 978-1-4516-5650-3. Grade 7 & up Like Richard Evans' adult novels, this title has a message of hope and love. However, this book also has pure adventure, science fiction, and creepy bad guys. Michael Vey has been hiding a secret all his life: he has a superpower. Sixteen other children born in the same hospital at the same time also exhibit unusual electromagnetic powers. Michael and Taylor are the only ones who haven't been collected by the evil, power hungry men. With some help from others, Michael and Taylor free the prisoners of the twisted Elgin Academy where they are held. The book ends with Michael, Taylor, and their new friends banding together to rescue Michael's mother, setting the scenario for a sequel. Although the book starts out rather slowly, the pace picked up. Readers will be looking forward to the next book in the series. Kyla M Johnson, Librarian, Farmington (New Mexico) High School [Editor's Note: Available in e-book format.] Recommended Library Media Connection, Jan/Feb 2012EVANS, Richard Paul. Michael Vey: The Prisoner of Cell 25. 336p. S & S/Pulse/Mercury Ink. 2011. Tr \$17.99. ISBN 978-1-4516-6183-5; ebook \$9.99. ISBN 978-1-4516-5822-4. LC number unavailable. Gr 5-9-Michael Vey, 14, has problems. Not only does he suffer from Tourette's syndrome, but he also has electricity coursing through his body. He can shock people without rubbing his feet on the carpet; he can jump-start his mother's car by holding the battery connectors and "surging," and he can knock bullies who attack him off their feet. Michael and his mother have moved to Idaho because there was an "incident" in his former town, and now he discovers that the prettiest girl in his new school has powers, too. Taylor can read people's minds. Ostin, Michael's best friend, doesn't have powers, but he is wicked smart and helps them to figure out that there is more to the mystery than the fact that they were born in the same hospital within days of each other. Soon there is a terrifying adventure afoot when they are captured and introduced to others with powers who, under the lead of the sinister Hitch, have kidnapped Michael's mother and have evil plans for the world.

The dialogue and interactions among the teens seem more like they belong in the 1950s rather than today, but the fast-paced action and cool powers will probably outweigh any negatives.-Jake Pettit, Thompson Valley High School, Loveland, CO SLJ, November 2011""Michael Vey" is fantastic. I simply couldn't put it down. I believe "Michael Vey" is every bit as good as "Twilight "or "Harry Potter"." - Glenn Beck, #1 bestselling author, media personality"My kind of book-- fast, funny, and strange. Once Michael's astounding powers are revealed, the shocks keep coming chapter after chapter." - R.L. Stine, #1 bestselling author of Goosebumps""Michael Vey" is one of the most original thrillers I've come across in years. It's rare that a book can appeal to a young adult just as much as their parents-but Evans has pulled it off." - Vince Flynn, #1 New York Times bestselling author"Evans (The Christmas Box) enters the YA market with this fast-paced... tale of a teenager with superpowers and the conspiracy that created him... Evans delivers a pair of believable lead characters--Taylor has wits and personal integrity, while Michael's Tourette's syndrome, coupled with an emotional jolt from his past, adds dimension." -"Publishers Weekly", August, 2011""Michael Vey: The Prisoner of Cell 25" by Richard Paul Evans is a fantastic read...because of the realistic writing, the likable characters, and a plot that guarantees non-stop action from almost the first page...Any teen into action, adventure or science fiction will want to make sure "Michael Vey" is on his or her bookshelf." "- Chicago Examiner.com"

> is the #1 internationally bestselling author of > and seventeen consecutive > bestsellers. He is also the winner of the American Mothers Book Award and two first-place Storytelling World Awards. He lives with his family in Salt Lake City, Utah.

My 10 year old son did not really like to read. He would get graphic novels from the school library but he mostly just looked at the pictures. I would try reading books with him but he would loose interest. This summer I decided that we would read this book. I made a deal with him that I would read 4 pages and he would read 2. He likes superheroes so I thought that this would be interesting to him because it was like a real life superhero. We read when I had time during the summer. By the middle of the book he was coming to me asking to read instead of me telling him it was time to read. By the end of the book he was very excited to get to the next one. He started reading the second book on his own because I was taking too long. He is on book three now. He is still very interested and often choses to read instead of watching tv. I am trying to keep up with him and I love the books as well. As a result of actually finding enjoyment in reading these books, I have also noticed that he is now actually reading the graphic novels that he brings home. I can tell he is no longer just looking

at the pictures but he is enjoying the story. I did originally buy the e-book version but my son prefers to have the actual book.

It's always a quandary - do you want an original story or do you want a well written one? This story has some good features, I liked the basic concept, I liked the idea of the glows. But the writing - the writing is very poor and childlike. I know this is a book for young adults, but young adults have been reading Tolkien and the Harry Potter series, they do better than this. I finished it, so that's an automatic 3 star rating from me, but I was disappointed with the telling. I won't be reading the rest of the series.

I am 21 and very well-read in the fantasy/sci-fi genre (think Dan Simmons, Robin Hobb). I read this book last year and loved it. I was impressed that Michael has a big weakness/ defect, a contrast to the typical teen 'Alex Rider' type male hero. Even more impressive was the fact that my 13 year old brother read this series. Before this the only thing I was able to make him read was Alex Rider. He really enjoyed it and I'm happy he's reading something that will teach him a thing or two. I was really impressed when he knew about tourettes syndrome and some really random fun facts about electricity. An excellent teen action sci-fi book that defies the stereotypes of the genre!

I really enjoyed this book. We purchased it for a teen book club book, and while the teens took issue with some of the story line (I agree parts of it were super cheesy), it was still a very enjoyable read. It was clean, and there was enough character development and action to keep me interested. There isn't a lot of explanation about why things happened, but perhaps later books go into more detail with that. I really liked it.

As a father of three boys, I am always on the lookout for good stories that articulate the things in life that I think are important. I think that the story of Michael Vey fits the bill. First, let me talk a little bit about the problem I have with the story. This is the reason (along with one other small complaint) why it loses one star for me. Now this is not unique to this book. You can find it in much of our popular modern fiction. It is not a modern story device, but I still find it annoying. It is the idea that in order to be special, to overcome or succeed, you need to have some special "Thing" that you are born with. Whether it is being born with special electrical powers, magic abilities (Harry Potter) or being strong with the force (Star Wars) it carries an implied elitism that supposes that you are not born with unusual "Thing", you cannot achieve great things. In this works defense, it shows folks

without special powers doing the right thing, fighting evil and being a success. So on some level, I cannot help but think that the author understands this idea and worked toward showing that no matter what circumstances you are born with, you can achieve amazing things. The only other complaint I might have (which might have more to do with the fact that I am not the intended audience) is that some of the story points did not work for me. Nothing huge, but in some of the high action moments towards the end, I was finding myself wrinkling my nose thinking "That would not happen like that". If I could have, I would have given it a half a star more. However, having said all that, I do highly recommend this book. Once I got started, I was not able to put it down and I handed it off to my youngest son (10) last night. I suspect that once he starts, he won't be able to stop either. I also am going to guess that he is not going to have the very mild story related issues that I did.

I purchased this for my 6th grade son for Christmas. I have a hard time finding books I think he may like because he reads at over a 12th grade level. Don't want the book to be beyond him but don't want to bore him kinda thing. He's read Harry Potter multiple times and while it is still his favorite series, I couldn't get him to go to bed once he started reading Michael Vey. He loved this first book and finished it in two evenings. He prefers paperbacks to ebooks, but he begged me to buy him the next in the series on his Kindle so he wouldn't have to wait the two days for the paperback to arrive to see what happens next. Gladly!

I didn't actually read this book but my 13 year old did, and that's who I bought it for. He was ecstatic about it and really enjoyed the read. He got it for a school assignment, but said that he was interested the entire book and he read it quickly.

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