

## HOLE IN THE SKY

I don't know about you, but I'm an absolute sucker for books that start with a map. The Hobbit is one. Piers Anthony's Xanth books are others.. And the latest is HOLE IN THE SKY by Pete Hautman. It starts out as an Apocalyptic Novel. A couple of kids and their uncle have survived the End of the World Virus at the Grand Canyon Lodge and meet up with a couple of other lucky dudes who have managed to eke out an existence (you visualize Road Warrior crossed with Dances with Wolves).

Until they all find out that Glen Canyon Dam is about to blow because the evil Kinka Survivors-of-the-plague have killed the dam caretakers, so the journey to heroism begins. It's a novel for 10-14 year olds (and adults lucky enough to read it) about survival, about serendipity, about allegiance and about destiny. If you are a fan of Dys utopian novels like The Giver by Lois Lowry and C.S.Lewis's Narnia series, you'll love this novel. It's like Hatchet ( by Gary Paulsen) meets The Stand (by Stephen King). The writing is spare, forthright and unembellished. The characters are cinematic, engaging and lovable/hateable. For preteen and teenage kids who love to imagine a world not infested with parents and other troublesome adults, it's a great story they'll eagerly plow through.

Infused throughout with the majesty of the "biggest hole on earth" and the legends of the Hopi world below this one, reachable through the sipapuni (a real place on the Little Colorado), this will be the perfect book

for kids who are headed to the Four Corners or a trip to The Grand Canyon.  
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