

Reviewer Username: Anonymous

School: Valencia High School    Grade: Junior

Book Title: The Prisoner of Heaven    Book Author: Carlos Ruiz Zafon

Rate: 5

The third novel of Zafon's Cemetery of Forgotten Books series, *The Prisoner of Heaven* can still be read alone without prior reading of the previous two literary works. Two friends, Daniel Sempere and Fermin Romero de Torres, are both well into their adult lives. With both men working for Daniel's father at a bookstore, their relationship proves extremely close; however, Fermin appears to harbor a deep secret. With his friend acting increasingly more nervous as his wedding date comes closer and a suspiciously spendthrift stranger paying him a visit at the bookstore, Daniel believes something is awry. After he is confronted, Fermin reveals his troubled past and a connection between the two companions' lives that Daniel had never known before. Now aware of Fermin's worries, Daniel puts his newfound information to good use as he helps Fermin escape the past.

Throughout the novel, Zafon's diction never failed to impress me, as his choice of vocabulary, figurative language, and impactful dialogue thoroughly captivated my attention the entire time I read. I enjoyed both Fermin's charming and witty personality and Daniel's righteous yet relatable attitude. Their well-written interactions truly established how concrete of a relationship they had with each other, which was what I most enjoyed about the book. In addition to that, Fermin's past was thrilling to explore and connect back to the present.

I would recommend this to all readers who are interested in mystery and adventure. Although *The Prisoner of Heaven* contains certain violent scenes which may cause discomfort to some, I think that any age group would enjoy reading through this intriguing novel. As stated before, Zafon has also written two precluding stories to this one—*The Shadow of the Wind* and *The Angel's Game*—which are most definitely just as, if not more, entertaining than this book.