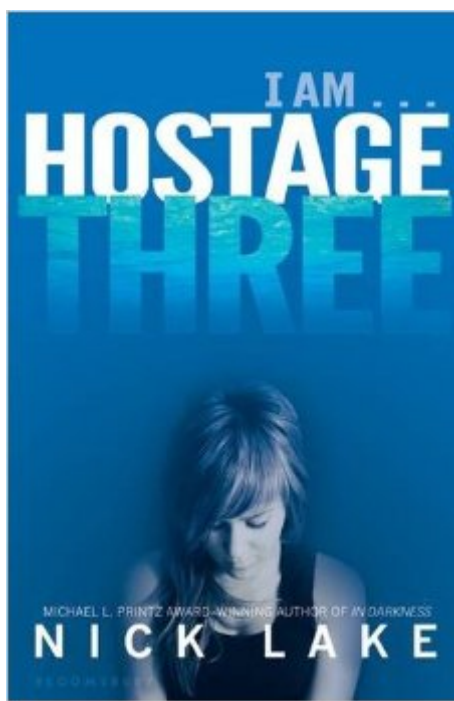


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# Hostage Three



## Synopsis

As Amy sets out to sea with her family on a yacht, she's only thinking about the peaceful waters and the warm sun. But she doesn't get either after a group of pirates seize the boat and its human cargo, and the family becomes a commodity in a highly sophisticated transaction. Hostage One is Amy's father--the most valuable. Hostage Three is Amy, who can't believe the nightmare she's in. But something even stranger happens as she builds a bond with one of her captors, making it brutally clear that the price of life and its value are two very different things. From one of today's most exciting contemporary voices in YA comes a commercial page-turner you won't be able to put down.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 710 (What's this?)

Paperback: 400 pages

Publisher: Bloomsbury USA Childrens; Reprint edition (August 26, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1619634384

ISBN-13: 978-1619634381

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 1.1 x 7.8 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (25 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #913,998 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #115 in [Books > Teens >](#)

[Literature & Fiction > Action & Adventure > Pirates](#) #578 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction](#)

[> Social & Family Issues > Family > Parents](#) #1325 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction >](#)

[Action & Adventure > Survival Stories](#)

Age Range: 12 - 17 years

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

Hostage Three will take you for a wild, emotional ride. Nick Lake mixes the perfect combination of desperation, love, and heartache. It's definitely a case of someone doing the wrong things for the right reasons. With their lives on hold, Amy, her father, and step-mother set sail for the world on their yacht. Amy is the reluctant passenger, content to listen to music and forget where she is and who she's with. When Amy and her family become hostages, all of that changes. As the bargaining chip of pirates from Somalia, the yacht and all of its human cargo will fetch a high price,

a price, which for one of the pirates, will allow him to buy his brother's way out of prison. The back story of Amy and Farouz unfolds between the action scenes. There's plenty of guns and intensity to go around. It's such an unlikely romance between captor and hostage, innocent in an unexpected and beautiful way. Amy is a very unlikeable character at the start. She's bratty, she's spoiled, but mostly, she's unhappy. She has a lot of ghosts following her around and her father's inattentiveness leaves her cold and lonely. Farouz became a pirate because he had no other choice. Somalia is not a forgiving place. After his parents are killed and his brother is imprisoned, he turns to piracy to raise the money to free his brother. Farouz's story is heartbreaking, and even though he's a pirate and he does terrible things, I can understand why Amy would sympathize with him. I found myself rooting for the bad guys. Amy and Farouz's romance develops slowly and is filled with uncertainty. Though it's clear Farouz cares for Amy, he's also a pirate who has sworn to do his job. Refusing could mean his execution. I found Hostage Three unique and heartbreaking.

Hostage Three in three words: Thrilling, Emotional & Bittersweet The story starts off with a dramatic, in media res beginning, which only lasts a few pages before the reader is taken back three months before. As I continued to read, I started to almost dislike the story because the main character, Amy wasn't very likeable. She comes off as this bratty, spoiled teenager who doesn't get enough love from her daddy so she acts out---gets piercing, smokes cigarettes |.etc. But as I kept reading, I couldn't put the novel down. Once the reader learns why Amy acts and does certain things, it makes her more likeable, tolerable. When the yacht that Amy and her family are on gets seized by pirates, Amy has an instant love connection with Farouz, one of the younger pirates. It seems unrealistic that a girl getting taken over by pirates would instantly fall in love with one, but I guess if you believe in love at first sight then it works. I thought the Amy-Farouz romance was sweet, and heartbreaking because the reader knows that their romance can't end well because of the circumstances. But it teaches the reader about first love, sacrifice, and trust. Farouz also educates Amy (and us) on piracy and Somalia. I found these parts rather interesting because I didn't know much about Somalia piracy. While Amy is being held captive and falling in love with a pirate, she's also dealing with the death of her mother, trying to rebuild the relationship with her workaholic father, and trying to like her stepmother. Throughout the whole book, Amy feels broken and she's trying to pick up the pieces of her life. This is what made her relatable, and realistic. Even though she grew up in this rich atmosphere, she still experiences everyday problems and emotions.

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