**Artemis Fowl**

Eoin Colfer

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Twelve year-old child prodigy Artemis Fowl has discovered something that could change the balance between two species that has been in place for several thousand years. In this fantasy adventure, the main character, Artemis, a young genius who thirsts to restore his family's riches after his father disappears, has discovered the long lost underground fairy civilization.

He kidnaps one of their officers to hold for ransom. The officer, Captain Holly Short of the LEP, is tranquilized and taken hostage, just as she is about to restore her magic supply. Stripped of magic, trapped by an Irish millionaire, and trying to prove her worth as the first female recon officer, Holly tries to escape without raising the alarm of her captors.

After several attempts at freeing Captain Short, the LEP is forced to send the ransom, a tonne of 24 carat gold. However, they have a deadly trick up their sleeve: a bio-bomb, which kills every living thing within a certain radius. What they are not prepared for, is that Artemis is aware of their plan and knows the only way to escape the death trap.

Or does he?

I recommend this book for grades four through eight. Eoin Colfer's fast-moving and suspenseful story will surely please any fans of the Underlander series by Suzanne Collins and the Percy Jackson series.

-Charlotte R.