

= The Son of Neptune =

The Son of Neptune is a 2011 fantasy novel , the second book in The Heroes of Olympus series written by Rick Riordan . The story follows the adventures of amnesiac Percy Jackson , a demigod son of Poseidon , as he meets a camp of Roman demigods and goes to Alaska with his new friends Hazel Levesque and Frank Zhang to free the Greek god of death , Thanatos and help save the world from Gaea , the earth goddess .

The book received mostly critical acclaim , won the Goodreads Choice Award in 2011 , and appeared on several bestseller lists . The book continues Riordan 's use of third person narration , where chapters are from the point of view of one of the main characters , switching between Percy , Frank , and Hazel .

The book was first published in hardcover on October 4 , 2011 by Disney @-@ Hyperion with a cover designed by illustrator John Rocco . After an initial hardcover printing of three million copies , the book has since been released in paperback as well as an audiobook and e @-@ book , and has been translated into 37 languages .

= = Development and promotion = =

In an interview by Scholastic with Rick Riordan for The Lost Hero , Riordan was questioned about the whereabouts of Percy Jackson . The author hinted that the answer would be revealed as Jason 's quest progressed . By the end of the book , he said that readers would have a good idea where the second book is going . On May 26 , 2011 , Riordan released both the cover art and the first chapter for The Son of Neptune confirming that Percy would play a role in the book .

On August 8 , 2011 , Rick Riordan released a video giving more information about the book and its characters . The video includes pictures of a black haired boy with a bow and arrow in his hands who is later revealed to be Frank Zhang , a blonde @-@ haired boy holding a teddy bear later revealed as Octavian , a girl with black hair wearing gold armor and a purple cloak sitting on a throne flanked by a gold and a silver canine creature , both with red eyes , who was revealed on Rick Riordan 's blog to be Reyna , and another girl riding a horse named Hazel Levesque . Along with this , two chapters were released prior to the book 's launch : one was put on Riordan 's website and another read out by Riordan on Percy 's birthday , August 18 .

= = Synopsis = =

Several months after Percy Jackson 's defense of Mount Olympus during the events of The Last Olympian , Percy finds himself alone and on the run from monsters in southern California without his memories . Under the initial guidance of Lupa , the wolf @-@ goddess and protector of ancient Rome , he makes his way toward Camp Jupiter , the Roman demigod training camp and counterpart to Camp Half @-@ Blood . Upon arriving , he is again attacked by several Gorgons , and successfully defends a disguised goddess Juno as well as the camp with the help of the guards on duty . Because he protected her during the attack , Juno announces his arrival with her approval , identifying that Percy is a son of Neptune . She further tells him privately that he can only regain his memory by learning to be a hero again and successfully survive the challenges he encounters at camp .

Quickly befriendng the guards , Frank Zhang and Hazel Levesque , he acclimates quickly to Camp Jupiter 's new routines and leadership . Though Frank and Hazel are outcasts at Camp Jupiter , relate to Percy 's outsider status and consider it their duty to help Percy adjust . However , the three receive a direct prophecy from Mars , the Roman god of war :

Go to Alaska.Find Thanatos and free him.Come back by sundown on June twenty @-@ fourth or die .

Before any of them have a chance to gain their footing , they are selected to go on a quest to rescue Death from the giant Alcyoneus who is hiding deep in Alaska . During the trip , the trio learns that the goddess Gaea is awakening from several millennia of slumber with a plan to destroy the

gods and the world along with them . She has created seven children , all of whom are giants . Each of these giants is matched to fight a god who is an enemy . Each giant has the skills to oppose one god and they can only be defeated if the gods and the demigods join forces . This is not an easy task . Percy and his friends manage to defeat the Alaskan giant and save Camp Jupiter from destruction . During their journey , Hazel and Frank become true heroes who know how to use their powers and have self @-@ confidence . Percy regains his memory and helps them save the day .

= = Major characters = =

Percy Jackson : A demigod son of Poseidon , who is the main protagonist in the first Camp Half @-@ Blood series . He and Jason Grace have been swapped , because Hera (Juno in Roman form) has wiped their memories away to unite the two demigod camps . Percy is sent to Camp Jupiter , from which Jason comes from . And Percy is from Camp Half @-@ Blood . He goes on a quest with Frank Zhang , son of Mars , and Hazel Levesque , daughter of Pluto , to save Thanatos , Pluto 's lieutenant and the deity of death . He succeeds and at the end of the book leads the Roman camp into battle against Gaea 's forces and is made praetor by the campers . His memories are restored at around the middle of the book , as Percy drinks gorgon 's blood when he challenges Phineas .

Frank Zhang : a son of Mars . He is a Roman demigod at Camp Jupiter , a camp for Roman demigods . Frank has a crush on Hazel , which she reciprocates . He is a Chinese Canadian .

Hazel Levesque : daughter of Pluto and Nico 's half sister . She has been recently resurrected by Nico from her death in 1942 at the age of 13 and lives in Camp Jupiter . She has a crush on Frank Zhang . She is an African American demigod from New Orleans .

Nico di Angelo : Hazel 's half @-@ brother and son of Hades . Initially , he is aware of what Hera has done to Percy , and pretends he does not know who Percy is . He rescues Hazel , his half @-@ sister , from the Fields of Asphodel , giving her a second chance .

Reyna Avila Ramirez @-@ Arellano : daughter of Bellona , the Roman goddess of war , and praetor of Camp Jupiter . It is found that Reyna and her sister Hylla were servants of the witch Circe , whom Annabeth and Percy had killed in The Sea of Monsters . Reyna goes on to Camp Jupiter , and Hylla goes to the Amazons , where she later becomes queen .

= = Release = =

The Son of Neptune was given a first printing of three million copies , the largest for Disney @-@ Hyperion to that point . Upon release , the book ranked No. 1 on The New York Times bestseller list , USA Today bestseller list , and The Wall Street Journal bestseller list . It was the Amazon Best Book of the Month in October 2011 .

= = = Critical reception = = =

The novel was met with mostly positive reviews . Dana Henderson of the Seattle Post @-@ Intelligencer called the addition of new characters " refreshing and captivating " and claimed that it would " make the reader to want to keep reading " . Kimberly Bennion in Deseret News cited it as an " emotional roller coaster " and would please both old and new fans . However , she thought the characters had flaws . The Hutchinson Leader 's Kay Johnson wrote that the plot was confusing and the first half was not engaging , but thought Riordan should be given credit for introducing Greek and Roman mythology to a new generation . Kirkus Reviews was positive about the book , thinking that Riordan had " regained his traction " after " spinning his wheels " in The Lost Hero .

= = Sequel = =

The Mark of Athena was released on October 2 , 2012 and " The House of Hades " was released on October 8 , 2013 The Blood of Olympus was released on October 7 , 2014 .