



The Wittliff Collections

A Guide to the Rick Riordan Percy Jackson Series Collection

2003-2013

Collection SWWC-114

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Riordan, Rick
Title:	A Guide to the Rick Riordan Percy Jackson Series Collection
Dates:	2003-2013
Abstract:	Riordan's Percy Jackson Series document the creation of the multi-award winning series, <i>Percy Jackson and the Olympians</i> . Works represented include <i>The Lightning Thief</i> , <i>The Sea of Monsters</i> , <i>The Titan's Curse</i> , <i>The Battle of the Labyrinth</i> , and <i>The Last Olympian</i> . Materials include manuscripts, notes, production and publicity materials, promotional materials, and awards.
Identification:	SWWC-114
Extent:	12 Linear Feet, 24 boxes
Language:	English
Repository:	The Wittliff Collections, Texas State University

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Biographical Note

Shortly after Rick Riordan's son Haley was diagnosed with ADHD and dyslexia, Riordan came up with the idea of *Percy Jackson*. Haley had a keen interest in mythology but lacked the interest to read so Riordan surrounded his protagonist in the mythological world and made the protagonist share in Haley's disabilities. Riordan originally created the stories to just to be bedtime stories for his son until Haley suggested that he should get them published.

Riordan did not want the series to gain publicity based solely on the fact that he was already an accomplished author from the mystery series, *Tres Navarre*, so he went under a different name, Ransom Reese. When Hyperion Publishing Company took on his first novel *Lightning Thief*, originally titled *Son of the Sea God*, they had his name changed back to Rick Riordan on the novel. No matter which name was on the cover, the novel was an immediate success with all age ranges especially the middle schoolers.

After *Lightning Thief* was published in 2005, the novel was immediately bought to become a film. It was quickly determined that the *Percy Jackson* series would become a five book series; *Lightning Thief, Sea of Monsters, Titan's Curse, Battle of the Labyrinth, and the Last Olympian*.

Scope and Contents

Riordan's Percy Jackson Series documents the success and outreach of the series from 2003-2013. The collection is arranged in twelve series: novels (2003-2011); Ultimate Guide; discussion guides; publicity & marketing; promotional; awards; events; reader response; Camp Half-Blood; movie production; artifacts; and news clips.

The bulk of the collection represents the making of the series with manuscripts, notes, book production, publicity, and promotional material for *Lightning Thief*, *Sea of Monsters*, *Titan's Curse*, *Battle of the Labyrinth*, and *Last Olympian*.

The series also includes a screenplay for *Lightning Thief*, reader response from students, and a Poseidon figurine. Several photographs including the stills of the book trailer for the *Sea of Monsters*. Artifacts span from action figures, swords, T-shirts, and "Mythomagic" card sets. Numerous amounts of news clippings pertaining to Riordan and the series. Videos and pictures of actual Camp Half-Blood camps.

Administrative Information

Physical Location

Materials may be stored off-site. Advance notice is required for use:

<https://www.thewittliffcollections.txstate.edu/research/makearesearchappointment.html>.

Conditions Governing Access

Collection is open for research.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gifts of Rick Riordan, beginning in 2010.

Preferred Citation

The Rick Riordan Percy Jackson Series, The Wittliff Collections, Texas State University

Related Materials

Additional Rick Riordan collections include The Rick Riordan Papers (Collection 079) which consists primarily of Riordan's Tres Navarre mystery series.

Conditions Governing Use

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<https://www.thewittliffcollections.txstate.edu/research/visit/policies/publication.html>

Controlled Access Headings

- Authors, American
- Mythology
- Young adult fiction

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Novels, 2003-2011, undated

The Lightning Thief

Box	Folder	
1	1	Jennifer Besser to Riordan 3 p. "Enclosed are my comments for PERCY JACKSON AND THE LIGHTNING THIEF. As I was going over the manuscript..." Suggests particular edits to the novel, April 29, 2004
1	1	Jennifer Besser to Riordan. 1 p. "I hope this finds you very well! Enclosed please find your advanced reading..." Discusses the production of the novel, November 9, 2004
1	1	Francesca Dow to Riordan. 1 p. Includes postcard "We are happy to announce that our new online catalogue for the autumn titles..." Asks him to check out the catalogue for Puffin, May 31, 2005
1	1	Sarah to Riordan. 1 p. "I am absolutely delighted to enclose an early finished copy of PERCY JACKSON AND THE OLYMPIANS: THE LIGHTNING THIEF..." Discusses the first editions being sent out, July 29, 2005
1	1	Joanna Galvin to Riordan. 1 p. "Please find enclosed a copy of Look At A Book, the Guardian Children's Book Supplement..." Informs him of the advertisements for the novel, October 10, 2005
1	1	Francesca Dow to Riordan. 1 p. "I'm delighted to let you know that we have just put in a reprint for 5,000 copies of Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief..." Updates him on the reprint of the novel, May 17, 2006
1	1	Third Party: Gemma Oromí to Nancy Gallt. 1 p. "Please find enclosed eight copies of our edition of the above mentioned titled, as per agreement. The title has been published in June 2006..." Notifies Gallt of the production for the novel in Barcelona, June 30, 2006
1	1	Francesca Dow to Riordan. 1 p. "I'm delighted to let you know that we have just put in a reprint for 6,000 copies of Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief..." Updates him on the reprint of the novel, September 19, 2006
1	1	Sarah to Riordan, Postcard. "As promised, here is a copy of the UK cover proof for the new book PERCY JACKSON AND THE LIGHTNING THIEF. As I mentioned in my email..." Discusses the design of the UK cover, December 19, 2007
1	1	Adele to Riordan. Postcard. "Thank you so much for all your hard work with this week. It was a great pleasure to meet you." Congrats him on the launch of the novel, undated
1	2	Typescript for The Learning Disabled Hero, 7 p., undated
1	3-4	Typescript, editorial letter and edited by Jennifer Besser. Also contains letter from Ransom Reese to reader. 393 p., April 29, 2004
1	5	Typescript, early draft. Contains pencil corrections, 388 p., undated
1	6	Bound Typescript, early draft. Originally titled Son of the Sea God, 388 pages. Under the name, Ransom Reese, September 2004
1	7	Typescript, includes a letter to the reader by Riordan. 380 p., undated
2	1	Typescript, includes a letter to the reader by Riordan. 380 p., undated

2 2-3 Typescript, editorial letter by Samantha Mackintosh. 376 p., February 7, 2005
2 4 United States First Edition cover of the novel; UK Edition cover of the novel
2 5 Various Bestseller Lists from Publishers Weekly, NAIBA, Book Sense, and New York Times. 12 p., 2006-2007
2 6 Many Publishers Weekly Magazines that contain Bestsellers Lists for the novel, 2006-2007
2 7 Numerous catalogs and excerpts advertising the novel, 2005-2008, undated
2 8 Three magazines from CHILD, Disney Adventure, and New York Family that publicize the novel, 2006, 2010
2 9 Percy Jackson and The Lightning Thief: A Mythological Marketing Proposal by Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers. 10 p., undated

3 1 Various items used to promote the novel such as bookmarks, Sneak Preview, postcards, and a competition for a pair of Converse All-Star Trainers, 2005, undated
3 2 Abundant number of book reviews from various individuals and companies, 2005-2007, undated
3 3 Several award announcements and nominations, 2005-2007, undated
3 4 Unframed Award of the Ellie Honor Award by Madison Public Library, January 16, 2007
3 5 Plaque award of the Golden Spur Children's (K-3) Honor Book, 2005
3 6 Plaque award of the Beehive Book Award, 2005
3 7 Plaque award of the Maine Student Book Award, 2007
3 8 Framed award of the Pennsylvania Young Reader's Choice Award, May 2, 2008
3 9 Plaque award of the Grand Canyon Reader Award, 2008

4 1 Plaque award of the Massachusetts Children's Book Award, 2008
4 2 Plaque award of the Nebraska Young Adult Golden Sower Award, 2008
4 3 Plaque award of the Nn Award, 2008
4 4 Two Certificates of the Nutmeg Children's Book Award, 2008
4 5 Medal award of the Oklahoma Young Adult Award. Includes letter by Kathy Logan to Riordan, congratulating him on winning, 2008
4 6 Medal award of the South Carolina Jr. Book Award. Includes letter by Lisa Conrath to Riordan, explaining the purpose of the award, 2008
4 7 Plaque award of the Minnesota Youth Reading Award Division II, 2009

5 1 Plaque award of the Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's Book Award, 2009
5 2 Plaque award of the Volunteer State Book Award, 2009; Bowl award of the Red House Children's Book Award, 2006; Glass award of the Hampshire Book Award, 2007., 2006-2007, 2009

6 1 Two glass bookends of the Sunshine State Young Readers Award; Miniature statue of the Mark Twain Award, 2008-2009

7 1 Golden Apple with stand for the Iowa Teen Award, 2009

The Sea of Monsters

8 1 Travis Stoll to Riordan, 2 p. "I received the manuscript, and I have finished reading it.

I have a few suggestions..." Advises him on how to fix the grammatical errors of his manuscript., July 10, 2005

8 1 [Jennifer Besser] to Riordan, 3 p. "You've done it again! This is a brilliantly structured novel..." Discusses character development and structure of the novel., August 19, 2005

8 1 Francesca Dow to Riordan, 1 p. "I'm delighted to let you know that we have just put in a reprint..." Informs him of the reprint of the novel. , July 13, 2006

8 1 Sarah to Riordan, Postcard. "As promised, here is an early copy of the hardback of SEA OF MONSTERS." Thanks him for his hard work on the novel., undated

8 2 Typescript, annotated early draft, 269 pages, undated

8 3-4 Typescript, editorial letter and edited by Jennifer Besser, August 19, 2005

8 6 Various catalogs from Hyperion Books for Children, Books of Wonder, Miramax, Listening Library, and Publishers Weekly advertising the novel, 2005-2007

8 7 Photography stills for the Scholastic Video Shoot. The fourteen photos were taken when trying to find the "Camp Half-Blood" setting in Long Island. , 2006

8 8 Folder used to hold the Scholastic Video Shoot photos, 2006

8 9 Various items to promote the novel such as bookmarks, a Scholastic Special Event poster, and a "Top Books for Boys" list from The Times, , 2007, undated

8 10 Several book reviews from various individuals and companies, 2006

8 11 Two nominations from Red House Children's Book Award and Colorado Children's Book Award, 2007, 2009

8 Red House Children's Book Award: Scrapbook of letters from school children in the U.K., 2006

9 1 Miniature statue of the Mark Twain Award, 2009-2010

The Titan's Curse

10 1 Two copies of the original plot synopsis for Percy Jackson and the Olympians 3: The Hunters of Artemis (one of the original titles for Titan's Curse) 3 p. , undated

10 2 Typescript, annotated early draft for the Percy Jackson and the Olympians 3: Stolen Goddess (one of the original titles for Titan's Curse) read to son Haley, 2006

10 3-4 Typescript, editorial letter and edited by Jennifer Besser, July 15, 2006

10 5 United States version of the cover, April 2007; two UK versions of the cover, undated , April 2007, undated

10 6 Catalogs and excerpts from Publishers Weekly, Listening Library, and Disney Book Group. Also contains a card speaking on footage for the [book trailer] for the novel, 2007-2008, undated

10 7 Exclusive Sneak Peak / poster of the novel, undated

10 8 Several book reviews from various individuals and companies, 2007

10 9 Nomination for the 2007 Quills in the Children's Chapter/Middle-Grade category, 1 p. , 2007

The Battle of the Labyrinth

11 1-2 Typescript, editorial letter and edited by Jennifer Besser, July 9, 2007

11 3 United States version of the cover, September 21, 2007

11 4 Disney Book Group Summer 2008 Catalog with a letter by editorial assistant Colin Hosten, November 9, 2007

The Last Olympian

11 5 Helen to Riordan "I'm delighted to enclose a finished copy of the UK edition which was published on 5th May." Discusses the publication of the novel. , undated

11 6 Galley proof "fourth pass", January 12, 2009

11 6 Plaque award of the Buckeye Children's Book Award; Read St. Louis Teen Fiction Title Award, 2009; 2011

12 6 Teen Read Awards in the Best Hero Category, 2010

13 6 Two bookends award for the Wyoming Soaring Eagle Award, 2011

Series II: Ultimate Guide, undated

14 1 Two Typescript copies of notes for the Survival Guide to the Greek Guides (the original title to Ultimate Guide) 2 p. , undated

14 2 Typescript, editorial letter by [Jennifer Besser], 148 p., September 3, 2009

Series III: Discussion Guides, undated

14 3 A few educator essentials such as discussion guides for Sea of Monsters and Titan's Curse, Literature Circle Questions for Lightning Thief, and "The Olympian Files", undated

Series IV: Publicity and Marketing, 2007-2009, undated

14 4 Various Bestseller Lists from Publishers Weekly, USA Today, Book Sense, and New York Times, 20 p., 2007

14 5 Numerous Publishers Weekly magazines that contain Bestsellers Lists for the series, 2007-2008; Hyperion Books Catalog, Fall 2008 , 2007-2008

14 6 Printout of Riordan's website, 2009. 57 p.; Advertisement for the UK Percy Jackson website, undated. 2 p. , 2009, undated

Series V: Promotional, 2006, 2010

14 7 Miramax Books catalog endorsing the series, 2006; Two magazines in Spanish promoting the series, 2010 , 2006; 2010

Series VI: Awards, 2005-2013, undated

14 8 Announcement of nominations and winning awards, 2006-2007, undated

14 9 Medal award of the PNLA Young Reader's Choice Awards, 2008

14 9 Pin award with letter from Jeanette Rivard / Junior Library Guild, congratulating Riordan on winning award for The Sea of Monsters: Percy Jackson and the Olympians: Graphic Novel, 2013

14 11 Various videos of awards, 2007-2008, undated

15 San Antonio Youth Literacy / Outstanding VRT, 2005; Silver Jefferson cup Award, 2008 , 2005, 2008

Series VII: Events, 2004-2007, undated

15 1 Several announcements of Riordan coming to events to speak, 2004-2008, undated

Series VIII: Reader Response, 2004-2008, undated

15 2 General Correspondence, 2005-2007, undated

Cheryl Kitchings to Riordan, 2005. 1 p.—[includes drawing of creature] “It was a genuine pleasure to meet you. Students were enthralled...” Thanking him for visiting her school and the students. Deborah Callener to Riordan, April 21, 2005. 1 p. “My daughter Bethany was in your history class last year at SMH...” Asking him to come to an event for “Sleepover in the Library” at SA Public Library.

Jennifer Besser to Riordan, August 11, 2005. 2 p. “I think we already discussed this website (below), but I just wanted to share the terrific email...” The forwarded email discusses the success of Lightning Thief at Northport-East Northport Public Library.

Carl [Hoffman] to Rick and Becky Riordan, August 19, 2005. 2 p. “Thanks for being willing to sign these books. My wife loves the main character...” Asking them to sign the books with “Welcome to Camp Half-Blood”.

Third Party: Becky Riordan to Adele Minchin, September 28, 2005. 1 p. “I know Rick will be out of email contact for most of the day tomorrow...” Becky responding to an email that discussed how much a Children’s bookseller at the Ottakers Bookstore enjoyed the Lightning Thief.

Riordan to Sally Hilliard, February 23, 2006. 1 p. “The invoice just arrived marked “returned to sender”. We apparently used the PO Box...” Explains why a package containing Lightning Thief had not been received yet.

Sally Hilliard to Riordan, February 23, 2006. 1 p. “What a wonderful day! Thank you so much for taking a whole day from your schedule...” Thanks him for visiting River Oaks Baptist School.

Carl Hoffman to Riordan, April 2, 2006. 1 p. “Thanks again for doing this. Please sign and date...” Thanking him and asking for promotional materials.

Marlice E. Peabody to Riordan, May 17, 2006. 1 p. “I’ve read several of your Tres Navarre books after stumbling across Big Red Tequila in an Audio Adventures make...” Discusses her granddaughter’s appreciation for the series.

Longhorn Library to Riordan, November 1, 2006. Card. “I don’t think we can thank you enough for the great evening you spent with us at Luna Middle School...” Thanking him for attending their school event.

Kari Baumbach to Riordan, January 11, 2007. 1 p. “My 13 year old son is in the Autism spectrum and is also a reluctant reader...” Thanking him for creating the Lightning Thief and sparking an interest in books for her son.

Erin Thompson to Riordan, January 12, 2007. 1 p. "My job has NEVER been boring. I teach 7th grade Language Arts (for about 8 years now), and that probably explains it..." Informing him on her appreciation for the series and that she uses the books to help teach Mythology to her class. [Topher Bradfuld] to Riordan, May 6, 2007. 1 p. "Thanks to you BookPeople had its longest book signing event in BookKids history. The door count said that 1,600 folks passed through our doors..." Informing him on the number of copies of *Titan's Curse* sold to date.

Maggie K. to Riordan, May 28, 2007. Card. "Congratulations on the *Titan's Curse* several of our students said it was the best one yet!" Asked for two book plates with his autograph for her copies of *Titan's Curse*.

Meg to Riordan, undated. 1 p. "My son, Emile, is a half-blood. He doesn't have ADHD or get into trouble or have a Greek god as a biological parent..." Informs him on how the books have affected her son.

Margaret to Riordan, undated. 1 p. "A few weeks ago I had two different people come up and mention you..." Congrats him on the success of the series.

Jenny Martin to Riordan, undated. 1 p. "Thank you for visiting Hyman Elementary. The presentations were superb..." Thanks him for visiting her school, Duncanville Independent School District.

Jenny Martin to Riordan, undated. 1 p. "Thank you for writing the *Percy Jackson* series. The *Lightning Thief* last spring..." Informs him that she has added the novels to her course curriculum and Bluebonnet Lunch Bunch.

Larry to Riordan, undated. Postcard. "Well here it is...finally. I hope you like your segment..." Discusses making the video to promote one of the books.

Shannon McDonald to Riordan. Card. "I wanted to thank you for the wonderful impression you made on my 3rd grade son, Nathan, Tuesday evening. Thanking him for autographing her son's book.

Jennifer Segreto to Riordan. Card. "Thank you so much for visiting Brearley. I really appreciate you fitting us into your visit to New York..." Thanking him for visiting the Brearley School.

_____ to Riordan, Card. "This note is long overdue, and I apologize for that. I really appreciate your coming to my class..." Thanking him for visiting her class.

15	3	Thank You Letters from School Students, 2006-2008, undated
16		Thank You Letters from School Students, 2006-2008, undated
17	1-2	Thank You Letters from School Students, 2006-2008, undated
17	3	Booker T. Washington School letters from students, 2008
17	4	Jefferson Middle School's Mythology Bee Winner, Julia Maloney. Contains letters from the student, her parents, photos of Greece, and PowerPoint delivered to Riordan, 2009
17	5	St. John Lutheran School, photo album containing photos of students at school event, 2007
17	6	St. Mary's Hall, framed photo of students dressed as mythological and <i>Percy Jackson</i> characters, 2005

18 1 St. Mary's Hall, Thank You album from the last class Riordan taught at St. Mary's Hall with notes and photos, 2004

18 2 St. Mary's Hall, album containing pictures and letters from students, undated

18 3 Wendell Cross Elementary, bound book with letters from students, November 10, 2008

18 4 Essays from various students, 2005, undated

18 5 Various books on Mythology created by students, 2007-2008

19 1 Several DVD-Rs and CD-Rs created by students, 2006-2008, undated

Series IX: Camp Half-Blood, 2006-2009, undated

19 2 "Camp Half-Blood in Austin" by Jen Robinson, June 9, 2006. 1 p. ; Hillary Cole Davis to Riordan, February 7, 2007. 1 p. "I just wanted to formally thank you for all your support this fall for Englewood Public Library's Camp Half-Blood..." Informs him of the activities of the camp. ; Topher Bradfield to Riordan, September 16, 2009. 2 p. "First, thank you for allowing us to venture into new bad-guy territory for this year's Camp Half-Blood..." Informs him of all of the items that Topher sent to Riordan based on the camp.; Sketch of Camp Half-Blood, undated. 1 p. , 2006-2007, 2009, undated

19 3 CD that contains photos of Camp Half-Blood: Session 4.5 by Kyle Kurlick, 2009. Also contains a photo of camp members, undated, 2009, undated

19 4 Photos of camp members of Camp Half-Blood, 2007-2008, undated

19 5 Various CD-Rs and DVD-Rs that showcase the Camp, 2008-2009, undated

19 6 Four Bandanas from "Camp Half-Blood Austin Branch BookPeople", undated

19 7 Camp-Half Blood T-Shirt, undated

Series X: Movie Production, undated

19 8 Elizabeth Gabler, Carla Hacken, and Karen Rosenfelt to Riordan, 1 p. "Just a little something to commemorate your visit..." Thanks him for his support of the film. ; _____ to Riordan, undated. Card "Thanks for your inspiration and support..." Hopes that he will be proud of the film. ; Camp Half-Blood Patch; Stage seat from the Lightning Thief , undated

19 9 Second draft of the screenplay for Lightning Thief by Joe Stillman, 2005

Series XI: Artifacts, undated

20 1 "Poseidon's Fist Market" Jacket, undated

20 2 "Mythomagic" deck of cards, undated

20 3 Percy Jackson trading cards, undated

20 4 Olympia, Washington T-Shirt, undated

21 Three action figures, undated

22 Three action figures; Two pens that "slay", undated

23 One large action figure of Hades; Four "Demi-God In Training" T-Shirts; Two "Boy Meets Underworld" T-Shirts; One "Hunters of Artemis" T-Shirt; One Hot Topic Percy Jackson and the Olympians: Lightning Thief T-Shirt, undated

24 Sword, undated

25 Poseidon Statue, undated

Series XII: Oversized Items, 2004-2010, undated

26 Numerous news clippings based on Riordan and his novels, 2004-2010, undated

Map-case Drawer Two large drawings from children, 2008
5

Map-case Drawer Percy Jackson "The Greatest Heroes Are Readers," 34 x 22" [3 copies], undated
5

Map-case Drawer "Our Staff Recommends:" The Titan's Curse, 36 x 24", undated
5

Map-case Drawer "Sequoyah Young Adult Book Award... The Lightning Thief," 19 x 12", undated
5

Map-case Drawer Hyperion Books for Children; "Percy Jackson and the Olympians" book series poster,
5 undated