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# Into The Hurricane



## Synopsis

TWO PEOPLE WITH LOSSESEli and Max both have good reasons to go to the lighthouse on Shackles Island. For Max, it's an old vacation spot, the rare location where she has only good memories -- so it's the right place to scatter her dad's ashes. For Eli, it's the highest point near his Louisiana home, with the clearest view of the rocks where his sister died -- so it's the right place to end his own life as well.A STORM WITHOUT LIMITSBut neither of them expected the other, nor the storm. Because Hurricane Celeste is roaring toward Shackles Island, and its power will break bridges, slash electric lines, and stir up deadly wildlife -- some of it human. When the ruthless Odenkirk family steals Max's Jeep with her most precious possession inside, she and Eli begin a desperate quest to get it back and get off the island ... until they realize they must go into the hurricane.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 240 pages

Publisher: Arthur A. Levine Books (June 27, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0545853818

ISBN-13: 978-0545853811

Product Dimensions: 5.8 x 1 x 8.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #332,295 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #209 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Depression & Mental Illness](#) #773 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Action & Adventure > Survival Stories](#)

## Customer Reviews

Advance Praise for Into the Hurricane:"Into the Hurricane is a riveting story of survival and redemption. Haunted by troubled pasts and hounded by a relentless storm, Louisiana boy Eli and Jersey girl Max must let go of what's holding them back and reach for what really matters as they run, drive, swim, and climb for higher ground. The result is a Category 5 adventure, driven onward as much by sacrifice and heroism as by the whipping winds." -- Michael Northrop, New York Times bestselling author of Trapped and Surrounded by SharksPraise for The Miracle Stealer:\* "The power and danger of religion receives a realistic, gutsy -- and yet movingly spiritual -- examination in this ambitious and graceful drama... A slim book that reads with miraculous speed." -- Booklist,

starred review" Andi's internal journey from faith to cynicism and back again (sort of) is handled with exceptional skill. It's a rare and welcome portrait of a girl trying to navigate teenage angst, family dysfunction, and religious belief." -- The Horn Book "A thought-provoking examination of the power of faith and the human desire for a savior." -- Kirkus Reviews

Neil Connelly is the author of three critically acclaimed novels, most recently *The Miracle Stealer*, which Booklist called "realistic, gutsy -- and yet movingly spiritual." He teaches creative writing at Shippensburg University in Pennsylvania and lives in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, with his wife and their sons. You can find him on the web at [neilconnelly.com](http://neilconnelly.com).

Neil Connolly, author of *Into the Hurricane*, weathered five hurricanes while living in Lake Charles and uses that experience for this action-packed story. Max and Eli are two teens who find themselves at the lighthouse on Shackles Island, a barrier outpost off the Cameron Parish coast. A category five hurricane is approaching but both are on a mission, one to scatter the ashes of her father from the top of the lighthouse and the other to face the fate of his sister's death. Time is running out, for the bridge to the mainland closes in hours, and other island residents pose both harm and safety. Will Max and Eli make it off the island, and if not, will they survive the storm? I'll leave the ending to readers, but offer this hint, you'll feel like you've been through a hurricane after finishing this book.

Take a boy who's tormented by the ghost of his dead sister and have him encounter a sad and angry, but determined girl. Add a monster hurricane and mix well. Garnish with a group of religious fanatics, an abandoned lighthouse, a derelict floating casino and a gutsy, but slightly insane war veteran and you have all the ingredients for a really intriguing and twisty story. It's part romance, part self-discovery and a lot of white knuckle survival minute by minute at times. Readers will be treated to a fast paced, slightly supernatural tale that's intriguing and has an abundance of action. I particularly like how both Eli and Max come to grips with what really motivated them to act as they did in the face of a horrific storm. It's a really good story for teens liking high adventure with a dash of romance and an ending that allows them to write their own 'what happens next'.

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