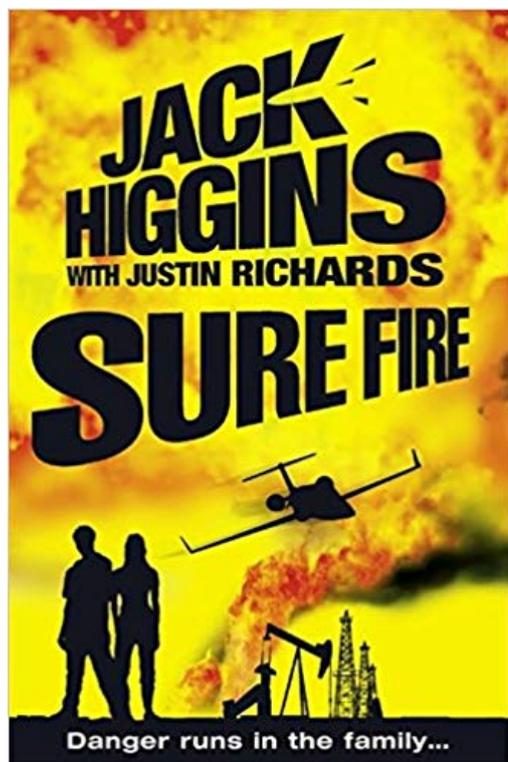


Sure Fire. Jack Higgins with Justin Richards *by* Jack Higgins



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Author: Jack Higgins

Book title: Sure Fire. Jack Higgins with Justin Richards

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The mother of fourteen-year-old twins Rich and Jade dies in a car crash and they are told they must go and live with their estranged father, who they have never met before. Neither the children nor their father get on, but when Rich and Jade witness him being kidnapped they are drawn into a dangerous crisis that could engulf not just their family but the whole world...



Reviews of the **Sure Fire. Jack Higgins with Justin Richards** *by* Jack Higgins

Kiaile

Please understand that all my reviews focus on the interests of my middle school students.

To those people who remain depressed that Alex Rider has ridden into the California sunset, take heart! The Brits have gotten themselves a new teenage spy; as a matter of fact, they have two. A boy/girl set of twins all set to take on the bad guys. The Brits have learned their lesson, however. This time they know not to recruit them so young, so they get ninth graders instead of an eighth grader!

This first book in the series moves much like an Alex Rider novel. After a slow start (needed to set up the basic situation), the book revs into high gear. The action is hard-hitting and doesn't really stop until the last page. Much like the Rider books, the bad guys are constantly underestimating the courage, skill, and determination of our protagonists. Character development is actually handled pretty well; I felt like I got to know both the kids. Sometimes this does not happen in a book that focuses so much on the action.

This particular book is written with relatively simple vocabulary and syntax. It is worth 8 Accelerated Reader points, compared to 7 for the first Alex Rider book (Stormbreaker). Of course, Horowitz moved the difficulty of his books upwards as his audience aged (Scorpia Rising, the last book, was rated at 16). I expect Higgins will follow this common pattern (made so successful by J.K. Rowling).

I recommend the book for anyone who liked Alex Rider or for any kid or adult looking for a fast paced action/spy book.

Author's Note: Since I originally published this review, Horowitz has announced he will publish a tenth book in the Rider series in Fall, 2013. I can't be sure from the teasers, but it seems the book may not actually focus on Alex but on other characters from the series. So maybe poor Alex will be allowed to have his later teen years be relatively normal.

Justie

This was a summer reading assignment for my son, one of half a dozen books from which to choose. He will be in the eighth grade come autumn. The level of language and overly simplified sentence structure appears to be targeted at third graders, though the level of violence is aimed at his age group or above. I am not sure that Jack Higgins did more than stamp his brand name on the cover for salability reasons. I'd be surprised if he Mr. Higgins actually read this tripe. Read this is you must, but there are much better choices out there.

Doath

Entertaining, but a bit far fetched with the two children.

LeXXXuS

Fantastic book!

Celore

haven't read it yet byt have read other by him and readlly love them

dermeco

the three books together make a good group to start teenage readers.

Orevis

Higgins is the master! I got this for my 11 year old son since I've read dozens of Higgins novels! He really enjoyed it!

I have read almost all of Jack Higgins books and I would give them 5 stars, but not this one.

Did not like this at all. Nothing like his other books.

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