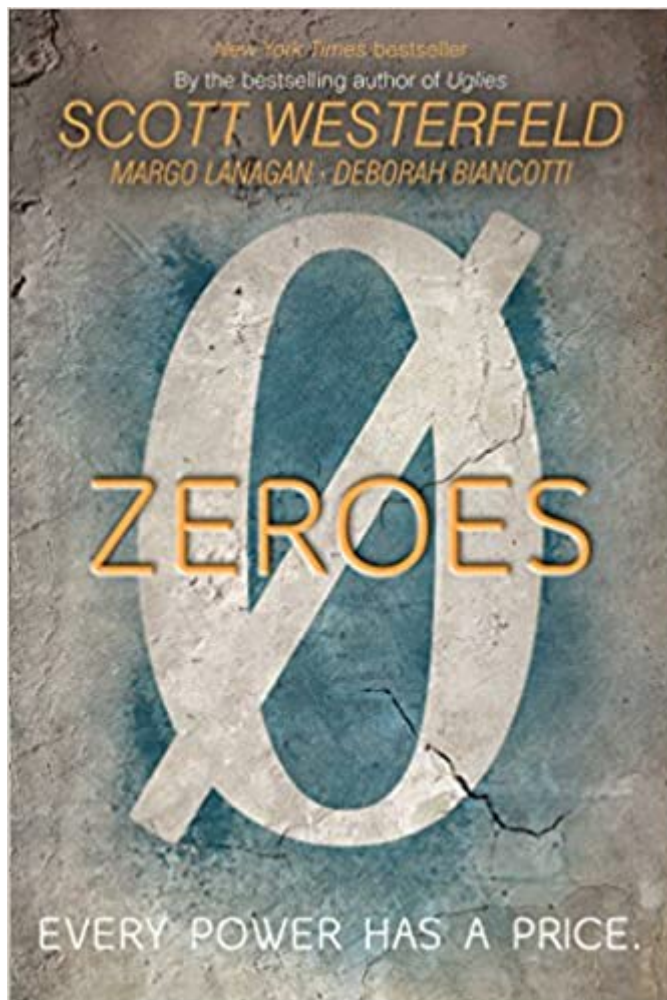


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# Zeroes



## Synopsis

X-Men meets Heroes when New York Times bestselling author Scott Westerfeld teams up with award-winning authors Margo Lanagan and Deborah Biancotti to create a sizzling new series filled with cinematic nonstop action, romance, and adventure. Don't call them heroes. But these six California teens have powers that set them apart. Take Ethan, a.k.a. Scam. He's got a voice inside him that'll say whatever you want to hear, whether it's true or not. Which is handy, except when it isn't like when the voice starts gabbing in the middle of a bank robbery. The only people who can help are the other Zeroes, who aren't exactly best friends these days. Enter Nate, a.k.a. Bellwether, the group's glorious leader. After Scam's SOS, he pulls the scattered Zeroes back together. But when the rescue blows up in their faces, the Zeroes find themselves propelled into whirlwind encounters with ever more dangerous criminals. At the heart of the chaos they find Kelsie, who can take a crowd in the palm of her hand and tame it or let it loose as she pleases. Filled with high-stakes action and drama, Zeroes unites three powerhouse authors for the opening installment of a thrilling new series.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Gr 9 Up • This may not be the first tale of a group of crime-fighting teenagers with supernatural powers, but its talented writing team get points for creating some fresh and original

superpowered abilities. Scam has a seemingly omniscient inner voice, which can speak for him and get him out of trouble or, all too often, into it. Flicker is blind but can perceive what others see. Crash can take down any computer and finds the experience embarrassingly and dangerously enjoyable. Bellwether can control the energies of the group and unite them in a common purpose. And Anonymous well, never mind, no one seems to remember anything about that guy. These five, plus one unpredictable new addition, make up the Zeroes, a team that split up due to infighting but get called back together to fight a baddie and come to terms with their talents and their place in the world. Told from six different points of view, the plot of this hefty tome slows down at times, but the effort taken to develop each character pays off. With two sequels planned, readers can look forward to spending more time with the Zeroes in the future. VERDICT For fans of superhero fiction looking for a character-driven tale and those who enjoy stellar writing. Eliza Langhans, Hatfield Public Library, MA --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

“Fresh and original superpowered abilities.” (School Library Journal, starred review)  
“Intriguing protagonists and cinematic powers.” (Kirkus)  
“With action, romance, and thorny ethical questions, it’s a book with a little something for everyone.” (Publishers Weekly)  
“Cinematic, nonstop action.” (Booklist)

I have not read the book. I would, but now it has Special Status, meaning it's dust cover is gone, and it has a permanent place beside my son's bed. Certain books are read over and over again, until the book falls apart, and apparently this attained this level without being a Claudia Grey Star Wars book, a Harry Potter, Lord of the Rings, C S Lewis, or Game of Thrones title. Or a history book. It was a gift for my 19 year old son this summer. Scott Westerfeld is a favorite of both my daughter and son, and she is teaching in South Korea, so I thought they could have something to talk about. When I gave it to him he actually SET HIS CELL PHONE DOWN, AND BROKE VISUAL CONTACT WITH IT'S TRACTION BEAM SCREEN, HE TOOK OUT HIS EAR BUDS, AND HIS FINGERS STOPPED PUSHING IT'S BUTTONS FOR AN ENTIRE DAY!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I thought maybe the phone had gotten broken or stolen, but NO!!!! He actually remembered he enjoys reading, and that this is one of his favorite authors. And, get this.....wait for it, parents.....my son actually said both "Thank you, Mom" AND "That was a good book, I enjoyed it." when he finally came up for air at the end of reading it, two whole social sentences, out of his own volition. Wow!!!! Any author who can make this happen, must be someone special. And, it wasn't part of a Star Wars series, yet!!! :) they

are great, but you can't have only pizza, three meals a day, no matter how exciting. ok, yes you can, but still.

*Zeroes* is such an amazing book! I loved it. I was a little put off by the constant head-jumping. We're treated to perspectives of all of the team members of the Zeroes team (and Mob); and while that usually annoys the heck out of me, the pacing and writing style of these three authors maintained my interest. It is the first example that I have read in a really long time of multiple POV's that actually works. Colourful, realistic and diverse characters. It was refreshing to explore the personalities and backstories (as well as personal relationships) of the cast as they slowly unfolded throughout the book. There was always something happening, and every event drove the plot forward. It was such an intricately and expertly woven plot I was never bored, though in some areas it did feel a little long. I loved the mythology behind the power system of the teens abilities and how it boiled down to connection of some sort (or lack thereof). A brilliant take on superpowers. And how there is a downside to their abilities as well. Every element of this book is fully developed and realised. I was never quite sure where the story was going the way it was written left you wandering if you were going to get thrown a curve ball or not. Great praise to the narrative to deliver such a tone of delicious uncertainty. Pacing is excellent. I was always eager to see what happened next. The alternate perspectives added to that tension, especially with many of the chapters ending on cliff-hangers. The only reason I'm deducting a point from a perfect rating is because of the confusion I had about which character I was reading about. Each with their own name and a superhero name. I had to keep reminding myself who was who. That, and the book was a little long, the extended internal monologues spaced some events too far apart. Although interesting, if boiled down more, the pacing in *Zeroes* would have been supersonic. Cute ending. Highly recommended. And can't wait for the next in the series *Swarm* due out next month.

I started with the audiobook at work and ending up finishing it through my hard copy. I really enjoyed this book and all the characters. The audio narrator did a great job and I loved hearing her voice. I like their powers and look forward to seeing where the series goes. My favorite scene was actually in the beginning during the bank robbery. I love the voice. It makes me laugh and I realize how much trouble that voice could people in. I look forward to reading the next book in the series and

plan on following the characters closely.

I had a little bit of a hard time getting started with this, but after a couple of chapters it starts really coming together. This is a great example of writing that has everything good in literature: well developed characters, great plot, excellent weaving of both interpersonal themes and the main plot. Action? Some of the most entertaining that I've read for a bit. I would love to read more of the "Zeroes".

Very enjoyable read. Hard to put down. I have yet to be disappointed by Mr Westerfeld and am looking forward to book 2.

It's pretty good, hope the sequels are better though.

Awesome book. Once I picked it up I physically couldn't put it down. It was like it was grafted to my arm. With great characterizations (with decent arcs), a compelling plot, lots of twists and turns, and an amazing climax you couldn't pick up a better read.

The book follows a bunch of teens around as they learn to deal with their superpowers... But these powers aren't just the run of the mill ones that fill the media. No, these are unique as the characters are and each one comes with their own price.

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