



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# A World Below by Wesley King

Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.



Read Aloud Video

## What's It About?

Mr. Baker's 8th grade class thought they were in for a normal field trip to Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico. But when an earthquake hits, their field trip takes a terrifying turn. The students are plunged into an underground lake...and their teacher goes missing. They have no choice but to try and make their way back above ground, even though no one can agree on the best course of action. The darkness brings out every one's true self. Supplies dwindle and tensions mount. Pretty and popular Silvia does everything she can to hide her panic attacks, even as she tries to step up and be a leader. But the longer she's underground, the more frequent and debilitating they become. Meanwhile, Eric has always been a social no one, preferring to sit at the back of the class and spend evenings alone. Now, he finds himself separated from his class, totally by himself underground. That is, until he meets an unexpected stranger. Told from 3 different points of view, this fast-paced adventure novel explores how group dynamics change under dire circumstances. Do the students of Mr. Baker's class really know each other at all? Or do they just think they do? It turns out, it's hard to hide in the dark.

## Who Wrote It?

The author of 12 novels and counting, Canadian author Wesley King has received over twenty literary awards and seen his books published worldwide. Focusing on middle grade and young adult literature, King is best known for his collaboration with Kobe Bryant on the #1 New York Times Bestselling Wizenard Series, as well as the Edgar Award-winning OCDaniel, which was also a Bank Street Best Book of the Year and Silver Birch winner. His most recent release, Sara and the Search for Normal, won both the Violet Downey and Ruth and Sylvia Schwartz Awards. He currently



splits his time between Nova Scotia, Canada, and an attempt to travel around the world on a creaking 1967 sailboat.

AR Reading Level: 4.7

Lexile Level: 670L

I want to read this book: YES / NO

☆ ☆ WHAT I THINK ☆ ☆

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Use this graphic organizer with the First Chapter Friday videos on YouTube from the Word Nerd.