

## Extract from Saving Thanehaven, Pages 5-7

"You know what? You don't have to do that," a voice behind him says.

Noble gasps. Then he whirls around, ready to face his next challenge.

He's not expecting it to be a beardless, unarmed youth.

"Who are you?" Noble exclaims. "What do you want?"

"I'm Rufus. And I'm here to tell you that you don't have to do this." Rufus peers up at Noble through a thick curtain of hair. "You can stop. Right now."

Noble is highly suspicious. "What do you mean? Stop what?"

"This," Rufus replies. "All this stupid stuff. The fighting. The heroics."

"You want me to surrender? To you?" Noble's lip curls as he studies the boy, who's about half his size. Rufus is skinny and pale, with a spot on his chin and a hole in his shoe. His clothes, though exotic, are badly tended. A checked shirt droops from his narrow shoulders, flapping open to reveal a soiled undershirt. His hems are frayed. He slouches. His pants are almost sliding off his narrow hips.

"I'm not asking you to surrender," Rufus says with a sigh. "I'm asking you to think. Just think about what you're doing. Do you like doing it? Are you happy?"

Noble frowns. He doesn't understand. Is the boy

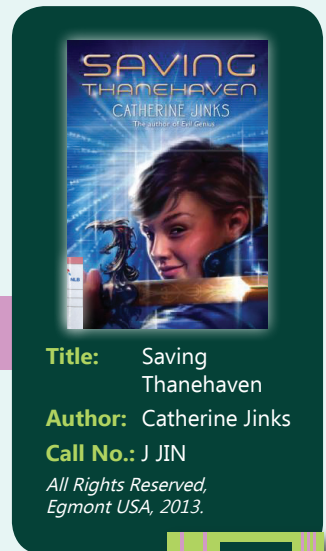
trying to lure him into an ambush?

Rufus has been watching him closely. "You can't relax for a second. It's just fight, fight, fight. And for what? Do you even know?"

"Of course I do. But I'm not stupid. What makes you think that I would discuss my quest with a stranger?"

Rufus rolls his eyes. His face is extremely mobile and expressive, though barely visible beneath all his woolly hair.

"Oh right. Your quest," he draws. "You mean the quest to kill Lord Harrowmage and rescue Princess Lorellina from the Fortress of Bone?" As Noble gasps, Rufus shakes his head. "For God's sake, that is so lame. Not to mention pointless."



**Title:** Saving Thanehaven

**Author:** Catherine Jinks

**Call No.:** J JIN

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### Think about these questions:

- 1 Why do you think Noble kept his quest a secret?
- 2 Do you think Rufus can be trusted? Why or why not?
- 3 What do you think will happen next?

# Talking Points

# My Thoughts



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# Activity One

You are a character in a video game. What sort of game would it be? Design the cover and write a short introduction of the video game below.

<b>Game Title</b>									
<b>Genre</b>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Fantasy</td> <td>Sci-Fi</td> <td>Horror</td> <td>Realistic Fiction</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Paranormal</td> <td>Mystery</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Fantasy	Sci-Fi	Horror	Realistic Fiction		Paranormal	Mystery	
Fantasy	Sci-Fi	Horror	Realistic Fiction						
	Paranormal	Mystery							
<b>Game Storyline</b>									

# Activity Two

In *Saving Thanehaven*, Noble meets up with many characters from different video games in order to recruit them for his cause. There are mages and princesses from fantasy games, futuristic people from science-fiction games, singers from music games, and even fluffy unicorns and fashion models from games for girls.

You are in your game and you have to complete a quest. Look at your friends' games from Activity One. Pick three games and create a character from each that you will recruit for your quest.

<b>Game</b>	
<b>Character</b>	
<b>How will this character help me?</b>	

<b>Game</b>	
<b>Character</b>	
<b>How will this character help me?</b>	

<b>Game</b>	
<b>Character</b>	
<b>How will this character help me?</b>	



## Books similar to Saving Thanehaven:

**Title:** Story Thieves

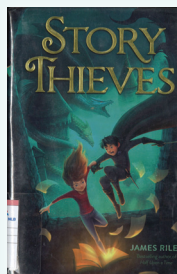
**Author:** James Riley

**Call No.:** J RIL

When Owen finds out that his classmate, Bethany, can travel in and out of books, he begs her to take him into his favourite book. Bethany reluctantly agrees as she hopes to find her missing father who was lost in a story. Unfortunately, Owen bungles up the plot, and now he is in for the adventure of a lifetime.

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*(This book is also available on eReads at [www.nlb.gov.sg](http://www.nlb.gov.sg).)*



**Title:** The Nerdy Dozen

**Author:** Jeff Miller

**Call No.:** J MIL

Neil Andertol is part of a whiz gamer's community, with access to exclusive games. When he scores an all-time high score on his favourite flight simulation game *Chameleon*, he is recruited by the military for a top secret mission to rescue the world's only operational invisible fighter jet.

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**Title:** Interworld

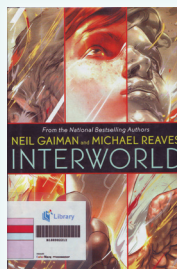
**Author:** Neil Gaiman and Michael Reaves

**Call No.:** Y GAI

Joey, an average boy who has the habit of getting lost, unknowingly walks into another dimension. He finds out that the universe is made up of many worlds, some of which are ruled by science and others by magic. Joey also realises he is not alone: there are alternate versions of himself in every world, each with the ability to Walk as well.

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*(This book is also available on eReads at [www.nlb.gov.sg](http://www.nlb.gov.sg).)*



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