

## APPENDIX I

### SYNOPSIS

The story starts when Rafe Khatchadorian is sitting in the back of a Hills Village police car. However, this is actually the end the story that is plotted backwards. Rafe, in fact, was on his first day of sixth grade and he does not exactly like his new middle school. In his new school, he only has one friend—Leo the Silent—who's more like an imaginary friend, actually. Leo has taken a part of Rafe's rebellion on breaking school's rules.

In Hills Village Middle School, his new school, he has to face a mean student named Miller. Miller is a bully who decides to make his life difficult. There is always conflicts between Rafe and Miller day after day in Hills Village Middle School. However, Rafe does not give up. He fight Miller back as he does not want to be known as a weak teenagers.

In the other side, there is Jeanne Galletta, the prettiest girl in school who doesn't know that Rafe exists. Rafe who is interested in her tries to impress her by his wrong way of showing his presence. For example, Rafe has made a turmoil by messing the meter and rhyme of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* in English class to get all of the students' attention and especially Jeannie Galleta's. Nevertheless, what he has done in the class is

In hills Village Middle School, the principle insists on making all the students obey many school's rules. Therefore, Rafe starts to get his really big idea. He may not be the smartest or most popular kid in school, but there's one thing he can do—break every rule in the book. He calls it Operation R.A.F.E. and he awards himself points for every rule he breaks. He starts by pulling the fire alarm on the first day of school. Maybe sixth grade isn't going to be so bad, after all.

At home, things aren't so great: Rafe lives with his mom and little sister, Georgia, and his lazy future stepfather, Carl the Bear. Carl is not a good man who loves children. He often yells at Rafe and Georgia instead. Thus, Rafe always argues with Carl as he resist Carl's authority. This is one of the reason why Rafe becomes a rebellious teenager.

School looks more interesting for Rafe because he thinks the whole rule-breaking thing is fun. Gradually, Rafe breaks more and more rules and gets in more and more trouble. Unfortunately, this situation makes his mom sad and makes his future stepdad unpleased. In the other side, his life become very difficult

than he thought. Miller, a.k.a. The Bully, takes his Operation R.A.F.E. notebook and then forces him to buy it back one page at a time. Rafe also thinks Jeanne might be into him, but then she puts him in the friendzone.

At the end of the year, Leo suggests that Rafe do a big project. Something that involves major vandalism. Then, Rafe draws a big scene on one of the walls outside the school. However, the school's principal and all of the teachers aren't so impressed. This is totally against the rule.

At night, Carl gets involved in a fight with Jules, Rafe's mom. The fight was caused by Rafe's rebellious behaviour. Carl insists Jules to be a little tougher on Rafe, but Jules does not want Carl to be overstepped on raising her children. Nevertheless, on the positive side, Rafe's mom finally kicks Carl out of their house, so there's no more a mean future stepfather. The bad news comes the next day though: Rafe is going to be expelled from school. Luckily, one of his teachers, Mrs. Donatello, suggests that his mom send him to a special arts academy the next year. Rafe seems happy to hear that.

## **APPENDIX II**

### **BIOGRAPHY**

#### **1. Biography of James Patterson**

James Patterson, one of the world's top-selling novelists, was born in 1947. James Patterson has created more enduring fictional characters than any other novelist writing today with his Alex Cross, Michael Bennett, Women's Murder Club, Private, NYPD Red, Daniel X, Maximum Ride, and Middle School series. As of January 2016, he has sold over 350 million books worldwide and currently holds the Guinness World Record for the most number one New York Times bestsellers. In addition to writing the thriller novels for which he is best known, he also writes children's, middle-grade, and young-adult fiction and is also the first author to have number one new titles simultaneously on the New York Times adult and children's bestseller lists

Patterson, who was raised in Newburgh, New York, graduated from Manhattan College in 1969 and later dropped out of Vanderbilt University's graduate program in English literature. He moved to New York City and worked as a copywriter at an advertising agency while writing his first novel in his spare time. After multiple rejections, that book, a thriller titled "The Thomas Berryman Number" was published in 1976. It won an Edgar Award for best first mystery novel by a U.S. author; however, sales were modest.

Patterson continued to publish novels, with limited commercial success, until the 1993 release of his breakout hit "Along Came a Spider," featuring African-American detective and psychologist Alex Cross. Patterson had another best-seller with 1995's "Kiss the Girls," also featuring Alex Cross. In 1996, Patterson, then a top executive at the J. Walter Thompson advertising agency, retired to write full time. That same year, he published the novel "Miracle on the 17th Green" with the assistance of a co-author. Patterson eventually began collaborating with a team of co-authors on almost all his books, allowing him to publish multiple best-sellers each year. He typically comes up with the idea for the book, pens a detailed outline then revises the chapters his co-author drafts. In 2010 alone, Patterson released nine titles, including his 17th Alex Cross novel as well as books in his "Maximum Ride" young-adult fantasy and science-fiction series, his "Witch and Wizard" children's supernatural series and his Michael Bennett detective series.

Whatever their genre, Patterson's books are known for being fast-paced with short chapters and little back story or description. Critics, including author Stephen King, have skewered Patterson's writing. In 2010, Patterson told Time magazine: "I am not a great prose stylist. I'm a storyteller. There are thousands of people who don't like what I do. Fortunately, there are millions who do."

## **2. Biography of Chris Tebbetts**

Chris Tebbetts is the author and co-author of many books for young readers. Titles include the number one New York Times bestselling *Middle School* series, as well as *Public School Superhero*, with James Patterson and illustrator Laura Park; the New York Times bestselling *Stranded* series with Jeff Probst; the young adult novel *M OR F?* with Lisa Papademetriou; and *The Viking* series. He has lectured and led writing workshops for kids and adults at schools, libraries, and conferences around the country, including the Antioch Writers' Workshop; the New England Society for Children's Book Writers and Illustrators; and the Adirondack Center for Writing, where he was also a 2014 Anne LaBastille Residency participant.

Chris' forthcoming titles include a new instalment in the *Middle School* series, *From Hero to Zero* (2018); a young-adult novel, *The Weakness of Grafty* (2019); and an as yet untitled *Middle School*, Spinoff (2019). His work has received children's choice awards in Oregon and Hawaii, as well a Sunshine State Young Readers Award nomination, and a nod on the New York Public Library's annual list of Books For the Teen Age. He is a native of Yellow Springs, Ohio, and currently lives in Hinesburg, Vermont.