

## LoveReading Reader reviews of Terror Kids by Benjamin Zephaniah

Below are the complete reviews, written by LoveReading members.

**Jake Fletcher, age 13 -**

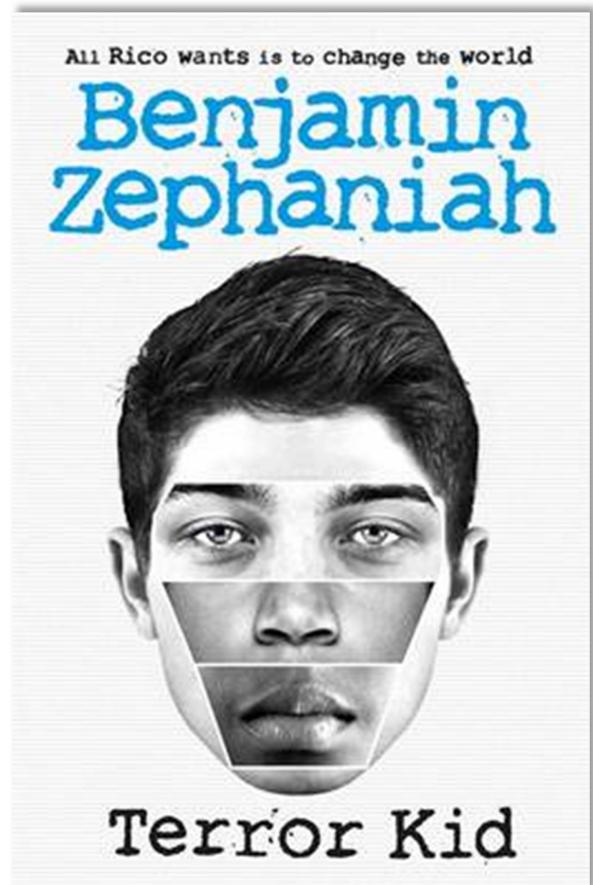
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***A book written beautifully can make us think more about the world we live in. 'Terror Kid' will shock you, scare you, and still you want to find out more.***

*Meet Rico. Born and raised in Birmingham, he has been arrested five times this year alone for doing absolutely nothing but being young in the wrong place at the wrong time. Rico loves computers. He works at a computer shop, where he repairs computers. He sees the hardship and the injustice in the world, and he wants the chance to help. When he is given the chance to make a difference with a cyber-protest, he accepts. How much harm can it do?*

*This is a fast paced book. It tackles complicated social and political issues: racism, faith, inequality, and how the justice system works through a story of an everyday kid growing up in the UK today. I found it a really emotional book -the horrible truth about this story is that these things do actually happen. A major factor in this is the inequality in life. Good people are deceived and the criminals survive and prosper.*

*This is an eloquent book. I really enjoyed it. I think kids today should read this book whatever their background. It does tell a truth, and I think this book portrays the world we live in now. 'Terror Kid' portrays the dark side of the world. It reminds me of the phrase, "the pen is mightier than the sword". A book*



*written beautifully can make us think more about the world we live in, and what we need to do to change it.*

**Alexander Boxall, age 12**

***This book really took me out of my comfort zone! Prior to reading 'Terror Kid', I guess that I have never considered the darker side of internet use. This is not 'Minecraft', it's a minefield of trouble!***

*Before reading the proof copy of 'Terror Kid' I was aware of the author's published poetry but had not read any of his other books. I was interested to see how he writes and this story really gripped me.*

*Like Rico, the character in the book, I hate injustice so, just how Rico got into the mess he did and the consequences of what he did really registered with me!*

*This is a suitable read for 12 to 14 year olds and the excellent descriptive passages make it easy to feel you are walking every step with Rico.*

*I will still fight any injustices I see but maybe after reading 'Terror Kid', I will fight them alone!!*

**Ethan Doore, age 12**

***Once you start reading you won't put this book down. A very topical and relevant story which is fast paced and heart stopping.***

*I thought this book was brilliant. The main character has to come to terms with what it is like growing up amongst those who challenge authority and what it is like to be on the receiving end of the police suspicion because of your race and you happening to be in the wrong place at the wrong time. This book deals with how easy it is to be misled by a manipulative person and the long term consequences of poor judgement on the main characters part. An exciting but sad story of what modern day life feels like for some.*

**Benjy Randall, age 10**

***Brilliantly structured book, I would recommend you read it.***

*'Terror Kid' is a brilliant book about a boy called Rico. It is based during the riots caused because England was going broke. This meant that the tax levels go up and payments go down. Rico is determined to do something about the injustice of the world. He is approached by a mysterious man called Speech.*

Speech asks him to do a cyber protest given he is a hacker genius. Rico agrees but he lands in more trouble than he could have ever expected. This book is great for kids who like books with a mix of danger and tech.

**Ellen Faulkner, age 12**

**'Terror Kid' is poignant and thought-provoking. Rico's struggles with the police make my struggles with my parents seem like nothing. It hit me really hard.**

*'Terror Kid' is about a young hacker who gets used without his knowledge. The danger of kids getting used for terrorist purposes is very real, and this book helped me realise that. 'Terror Kid' is very hard-hitting, with the views on social justice, terrorism and riots. It is very realistic, with the way people treat ethnic minorities, and the way police treat people that "are in the wrong place at the wrong time," as Rico is. Because his friend Karima and her friends start looting the shops in the riots does not mean that Rico did.*

*Overall I loved the book and it is definitely worth reading.*

**Safiyah Davenport. age 15**

*'Terror Kid' is a moving, thrilling and somewhat controversial book about society today and a young person's place within today's society. This book manages to deal with and explore issues like terrorism, injustice and the media whilst educating and keeping younger readers interested. Perhaps a tad bit slow at the beginning for kids who enjoy action from the start but stick with it kids, it's definitely worth it. **An intriguing book with morals and a conscious, this is perfect for readers who love action, adventure and a deeper look into the world we live in.***

**Rory Faulkner, age 10**

*I think Benjamin Zephaniah's book 'Terror Kid' is **a really exciting read, I was gripped and read it in only a couple of sessions.** The book showed me how bad terrorism is. Rico is the main character and I got a really good understanding of the trouble of he got himself into. My favourite part was when Rico was on the run and he meets up with some boys who let him hide out in his shed. He is relieved he has somewhere safe to hide but doesn't realise the danger he's in. I really liked the way that Benjamin Zephaniah writes and will*

*happily read more of his books. This book was gripping and I would recommend it to a friend.*

**Jodi Coffman, age 13**

***I really recommend this book for anyone interested in world terrorism.***

*Terror Kid is a great story about a real-life issue: terrorism. It is about a boy called Rico who is interested in hacking on computers. At first this is all perfectly safe but then he meets a mysterious man who, after a bit of convincing, manages to get Rico to do some jobs for him. With all the terrorism going on in the world, can Rico trust the man? This book is a real page-turner. It is intense but enjoyable to read. I really wanted a sequel as the story ended quite suddenly!*

**James Scaramanga, age 13**

***This magical book shows the transformation of a genius fifteen year old into a major league terrorist. Rico is a peaceful human but he's put in a position where he is persuaded to betray his own integrity. I would suggest it to children around the age of 13 or older, because it has some adult themes such as terrorism, and includes grooming of a young person, which leads to horrible consequences. I'm usually a slow reader but this was a great book and a real page turner, which I really enjoyed reading.***