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## Z

**Author:**

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**Reading Level:** Grades 7 - 9

Josh spends a lot of his free time playing a virtual reality game that his parents despise. The game? Killing z's. Zombies. Meatbags. The undead. Doesn't matter what you call 'em, as long as you kill 'em quickly. And Josh is one of the best.

So good, in fact, that he's invited to play a secret IRL\* version of the game. In prepping for his first game with another (female!) player named Charlie, he takes a drug called Z - to help him think just like the enemy. Josh soon spends so much of his time taking Z and prepping for or playing the IRL game that his friendships become strained.

What Josh doesn't know is that he's risking more than his friendships by playing. He's risking his life.

\*noob definition: in real life

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