



## A Cutler above

Jake Cutler is being chased by space pirates and he doesn't know why. Saved by the crew of rusty old spaceship Dark Horse, he sets off on an adventure through the solar systems. Will he discover the truth about his past before the pirates catch up with him? Author Huw Powell ensures readers are swiftly hooked on the mystery of Jake's origins. Delivered to a monastery as a baby by an enigmatic stranger, who destroyed his family ship, why does he wear a necklace of diamonds, emeralds and rubies?

Space Jackers effectively weaves historical elements such as pirates and monks, with futuristic technology like hoverbikes and Jake's computerised irises, creating a unique world with plenty to appeal to children's interests. Chapters are easy to read and short enough to devour several in one session. Powell has written a self-contained story with a rounded conclusion, but the stage is set for the next adventure, *Space Jackers: The Sword of Altus*, for those who desire more cut-throat exploits.

**Space Jackers** Huw Powell, £6.99, Bloomsbury, [www.bloomsbury.com](http://www.bloomsbury.com)