



Helping you choose the best books for children



LITTLE, BROWN AND COMPANY
BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

Lovereading4kids Reader reviews of **Rose Raventhorpe Investigates: Black Cats and Butlers** by Janine Beacham

Below are the complete reviews, written by the Lovereading4kids members.



Kitty Sidaway, age 9

When you read this book, you will be on the edge of your seat.

'Black Cats and Butlers' is an amazing book. My eyes were glued to the pages.

Who is the person lurking down the passage way? What are the secrets held by the butlers of the town? And why does the murderer leave a black glove in his victim's hand? And where have the Guardians vanished to...?

The book was extremely good but I think it is aimed for older children (11+) or if you are a confident 9 year old you might be okay with it.

*The book is worth reading. **It is probably one of the best books I have read.** If you like murder mysteries then this book is right up your street, or if you are looking for a new book to read then try this one and you might start loving murder mysteries.*

Emma Corden, age 11

This book is so filled with mystery. It's one of the best books I have ever read.

'Black Cats and Butlers' is a really good book. I think that all the detail is amazing when they explain about all the cats on the buildings that are actually real. I think that Rose is so brave and amazing I would love to be just like her. It was so clever of her to find the killer and to do a fencing duel against the crows.

This book is full of mysteries I loved it and I am sure many would agree with me.

Zoe Basson, age 9

This book was a creative mix of mystery murder and romance.

Deep in the world of black cats and butlers, I couldn't put it down. With just the right amount of historical input, this book is adventure from start to finish.

It takes you underground, into Victorian houses and even into a training school for high-class butlers. I believe that every child aged 8-12 should have a chance to read this book.

Amina Hassan, age 10

I loved this book the clues all fitted well together. A cross between mystical and magical to murder and gruesomeness. You will be spellbound but scared. I loved Janine Beacham's book.

I loved this book it was full of suspension as a murder mystery book because mystery books are my favourite i especially enjoyed this. It seemed to me that it had more suspension than other murder mystery book I'm sure anyone over 7or 8 will be able to read this book and enjoy it immensely because I sure did.

Toby Little, age 9

I liked the book because it has a really good storyline, and I kept asking myself what would happen next. 'Rose Raventhorpe Investigates Black Cats and Butlers is a marvellous book by Janine Beacham.' It is about a girl called Rose Raventhorpe who is searching for the murderer of the Butlers in "Yorke". Her own butler got killed, but he was more than a butler, he was her friend, and so she decides to find the murderer. Rose questions lots of people, rummages around in other people's rooms, and gets in trouble for it! Right at the end of the book, there are letters from Rose Raventhorpe's best friend, who is called Emily, and who travels the world in a hot air balloon, which sounds like a great adventure.

*Much of the action happens near the end of the book, so it's tricky to talk about it without giving anything away. **I liked the book because it has a really good storyline, and I kept asking myself what would happen next. I would recommend this book to anybody who likes an action-packed***

book, aged about 8-15.

Twitter @tobyiswriting

Elizabeth Bridgeman

This book is thrilling! This is about a 12 year old Rose Raventhorpe investigating a murder in Yorke but not random people, butlers. But why butlers is what Rose tries to find out! When you read the pages especially at the end it's like your heart stops. This is about 12 year old Rose Raventhorpe who investigates a murderer killing butlers! My heart turned reading chapters 16-18. **The rating will definitely be 5 stars** and I wish I could rate more and the age 9+. **This is set in the Victorian times in Yorke, but is not boring it is very fast and interesting.**

Twitter @RACHELb75

Ella O'Gorman

This is a perfect book for lovers of historical murder mysteries, that are a little scary. The central character wealthy Rose Raventhorpe is determined to find the killer of her family's butler. The Raventhorpe's butler Argyle is just one of a number of butlers who have been murdered in Victorian York and the cat statues around the city are disappearing. Rose's fondness for Argyle forces her to take action, regardless of the possible and likely dangers she will face. As the amateur sleuth sets out on her investigation, she discovers a world of grave-diggers, suspicious characters, magic and a secret butlers academy, that is hidden in a network of passages beneath York. **There is a mix of light and dark moments in this book that together make it a fascinating read and there is a great combination of characters**, including Rose's Gothic friend, Emily. I'm hoping this will be the first book in a series which I'll really look forward to reading.

Suhaiba Khan, age 9

Once I picked the book I did not want to put it down. This book made me use my imagination it was like I was a teacher. It was a good book.

My favourite character is Mr Dodge because he speaks politely when he opened the door. My least favourite character is Miss Ravensthorpe because she is

mean to her class and she has no respect. The part I liked was when right at the end Rose said out loud that I love Mr Dodge and said it is romantic. The part I felt sad was when Argyle died and they gave him flowers and put some around his grave. My least favourite part was when two of the cat statues came of the church. This made me use my imagination it was like i was a teacher. I would give this wonderful book 7 out of 10.

Emily Yates

'Black Cats and Butlers' is a great murder mystery story. There are many unexpected turns to keep you guessing about the identity of the murderer and thief. I really enjoyed this book.

It is perfect for fans of Robin Stevens' 'Murder Most Unladylike'.

When Rose Raventhorpe, a wealthy girl, discovers her butler murdered and the cat statues of Yorke disappearing she is determined to find out more and bring the murderer to justice.

More than one butler comes to this fate and getting to know them is intriguing. She uncovers a secret society of butlers who help her in her quest for justice along with her friend Emily Proops.

There are many unexpected turns to keep you guessing about the identity of the murderer and thief.

I really enjoyed this book but it took me a while to get into it. I would recommend this book for 10 years and over.