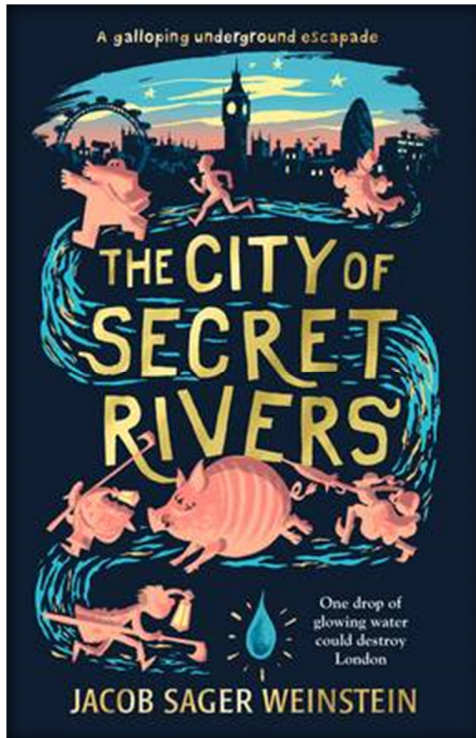


Helping you choose the best books for children



LoveReading4kids Reader reviews of **The City of Secret Rivers** by Jacob Sager Weinstein

Below are the complete reviews, written by the LoveReading4kids members.



Ella O'Gorman, age 12

An exhilarating magical adventure. Who would have thought that a story set in London's sewers would be such fun and completely riveting. It's packed with twists and turns and non-stop action.

There are so many things to like about this book. Hyacinth makes a wonderful central character. She has been trying to adapt to her new life in London after moving there from America. Now she has to save her mother and the city after she accidentally frees a magically charged drop of water. The mix of contrasting characters is wonderfully imaginative, from the strange old woman who lives downstairs from

Hyacinth, to the pig who wears a bathing suit and then there are the Toshers and the Saltpetre Men. Hyacinth has to quickly figure out who she can really trust. Having climbed The Monument, it was fascinating to read about it in this story. I did wonder why Hyacinth's mother seemed so incompetent all the time, but this is only a small quibble. I hope this story develops into a series as I would love to learn more about Hyacinth's family and their magical links to the enchanted rivers under London. I would recommend this book to readers who enjoy a fast-paced, page-turning adventure.

Toby Little, age 9

I learnt quite a lot about London from the book, and I'll look out for some of the places mentioned in the book, next time I'm visiting London.

One drop of glowing water could destroy the whole of London! Hyacinth and her friends Lady Roslyn, Little Ben and Oaraboarus search for Hyacinth's mother, who has been kidnapped by the Saltpetre Man. It turns out that Hyacinth and her family are very special indeed...but why?

This book is quite confusing, but you can follow the storyline pretty well. I really liked the part in the book where Little Ben and Oaraboarus meet Hyacinth, because they have to learn to work together as a team really quickly.

At the back of the book, it says that it is true that there are rivers under London, but they don't have magical forces. The idea is very new, and fits in well with the storyline of the book. I learnt quite a lot about London from the book, and I'll look out for some of the places mentioned in the book, next time I'm visiting London.

Twitter @tobyiswriting

Aoibhe Churcher, age 11

The book was extremely enjoyable! It was exciting, funny, intriguing and action packed. I almost read the book in one day!!!

The book was extremely enjoyable! I loved the plot because it was exciting, intriguing and action packed. I almost read the book in one day because it was so good! I would definitely recommend 'The City of Secret Rivers.'

Olivia Shaw, age 11

'The City of Secret Rivers' is an amazing book that will leave you wondering who Hyacinth can trust...

*Hyacinth Hayward travels underneath London to capture a drop of glowing water, but who should she trust? Her Aunties have tried to secretly prepare her for what lies ahead, but will it be enough? **Hilarious, gripping and adventurous all in one, it ends with an impossible mystery**, what will happen to Hyacinth next? I would recommend this book to anyone aged 8 and over. If you like adventures with made up theories to history questions, then this book has your name written all over it.*

Trinity Sadler, age 13

This book is an enthralling tale where fantasy meets adventure. On

the other hand it is a great book for children around 9 - 11 ages because I as a thirteen year old girl would prefer something else.

Elizabeth Beidgeman, age 9

I love 'The City of Secret Rivers'. Hyacinth has to rescue her kidnapped mother with an old neighbour and a pig with a bathing suit on that interacts with a box full of flashcards.

'The City of Secret Rivers' is an extraordinary book. *It's about Hyacinth Hayward who has just moved from America to Modern day London and just as she has, she is in the sewers along with an umbrella, an old woman, and the Saltpetre Men who kidnapped her mother. My Favorite character is Oaroboarous who is a pig in a bathing suit and interacts with people by giving them printed cards with words on and his owner is little Ben. **This is a definite favorite of mine and of course an epic 5 stars.***

Isaac East, age 11

Wow! 'The City of Secret Rivers' is definitely a great book to read. With twists, adventure and magic set in modern day London in a world of real secret rivers.

A girl chases through this new-found reality on an adventure like no other through collapsing cathedrals, sewer mains and monster prisons meeting all sorts of creatures from stone lions to unicorns.

*With a thrilling plot of a girl unleashing magical powers in a race across London. With challenges, surprises and danger she must find, discover and out-wit foes to save London. **This book is packed with action, adventure and a hint of comedy it is an amazingly easy read.***

I would recommend this book to people who are adventure and half reality lovers.