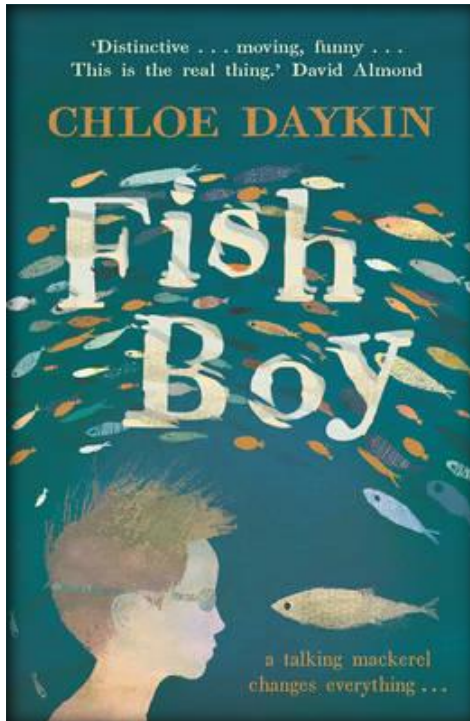


LoveReading4kids Reader reviews of **Fishboy**

by Chloe Daykin

Illustrated by Richard Jones

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



Isaac East, age 10

5 stars for Chloe Daykin and her amazing book, 'Fish Boy'. Full of adventure, friendship and love. 'Fish Boy' has you hooked from the first page.

'Fish Boy' is about a boy who loves swimming then gets caught up in a fishy tale. He finds new friends in a dilemma to show loyalty or love. With David Attenborough adding extra facts into this twisting adventure to help Fish Boy conquer the ocean with his fish friend.

I would recommend this book to people who enjoy slightly sad adventures, page turning plots or a balanced fiction.

Cally Evans, age 10

An astonishing tale, truly special! Meet Billy aka Fish Boy. He should have been born in the water. Bullies pick on him, his dad isn't around much and his mum has a mystery illness. Chloe Daykin has written an amazing book with a brilliant storyline that really captures you. This book is really interesting with magic (of both kinds) clashing reality in this extremely well written tale. I would recommend this book to anyone who likes a good story because I can tell you this is a very good story which tells of friendship and life. From this book I learnt a lot about the importance of best friends and being kind to each other. I hope Chloe Daykin writes many more! 5 out of 5 stars!

Humaira, age 18

*The blurb seemed enticing enough and when I first started reading 'Fish Boy', I thought it was going to be one of those books that blows me away with the magical realism. It didn't. I wanted to like this book in the end but I don't think it was a book for me. After a while it got boring. I was forcing myself to finish it and in the end I didn't enjoy it. To me it seemed pointless, there was a lot of repetition and the plot didn't go anywhere. **It's definitely is a book for younger readers, so they might like it.** It just wasn't for me though.*

Katie Bavister, age 12

***This book is one that should be read by everyone. Funny, sad, poignant, quirky and unique are just a few of the words that spring to mind.** Initially when I realised the book was about a boy who could talk to fish I thought it would be really strange and silly but it wasn't, I loved the book from page one and loved the character of Fish Boy - a boy whose mum is too ill to get out of bed most days and on top of that is being bullied at school. Fish Boy despite his struggles remains upbeat and the book examines aspects of different relationships - parents, school, and friendships and about how it is ok to be different and to be an outsider. When he realises he can speak to fish he is able to go deep into the sea and encounter an entirely magical, otherworldly experience. I would recommend this book to everyone.*

Brodie Greenslade, age 11

'Fish Boy' is an exciting and enjoyable story filled with fun facts and David Attenborough references. Ideal for nature lovers.

'Fish Boy' is an exciting story about a boy named Billy Shiel who, when swimming in the sea, spots a strange mackerel which seems to be attempting to communicate with him.

Back on land Billy is being targeted by the school bully Jamie Watts but finds refuge when he makes friends with new boy Patrick. Meanwhile Billy's mother seems to have something wrong with her and Billy is determined to discover the cause and now, every time Billy goes swimming, the mackerel is there, waiting for him...

'Fish Boy' is a very good book. I liked the personalities of the characters and the plot was exciting. I also liked the many references to David Attenborough and animals throughout the book. I would recommend this book to anyone who loves nature, interesting facts and a warm-hearted tale.

Amina, age 10

I loved that he had a sort of super power but it wasn't like in the movies where everyone bows down to him and adored him. He still got bullied and nobody knew except his mum dad and best friend.

I loved this interesting and very different book, it was very imaginative. It was a funny book and had lots of problems that most people know someone that has to deal with. It liked that he was getting bullied but his best friend stoop up for him. They both had a sort of super powers which was cool. He liked the see a lot. This was one of the best books I've read. (and I've read a lot of books)

Josh Parcell, age 9

Billy is a young boy who loves the sea but one day it might be a bit too much. He finds himself seeing and hearing a mackerel say 'kesz' but it was out of the water flying!!

'Fish Boy' is an amazing book about a boy and his wild pet mackerel.

Billy is a boy who loves the sea it clears his mind and makes him feel like himself. One day things are a bit different, the word 'kesz' is stuck in his head. The next day a mackerel is flying towards him ... What could happen? (Surprisingly not much!!)

Beatrice Whithear, age 9

*This book is about a boy called Billy, the fish boy. How he meets a Mackerel, finds a new friend and tries to forget about his mums illness. I liked this book as soon as I started reading it. Then **when Billy meets the mackerel I started to worry that I would not like this book. A boy meeting a fish and talking to him did seem a bit odd. However the book was brilliant,** with some great funny bits, especially Sir David Attenborough popping up.*

Billy has a great friendship with Patrick and I loved how Billy and his dad muck about. Even the bullies seem real.

I liked the short chapters in the book and how some parts made me read really quick like the short sentences when Billy is diving with the shoal of fish. I could picture the Bob bits, the US and the sea so well.

The sea is Billy's get away safe place where he forgets all his problems, especially his mums illness.

I really enjoyed this book and would score it 9 3/4 out of 10.

Hector Watch

What an unusual and unique book. As a story I did not find it gripping, as the plot, like the waves, kept coming and going. However, the relationship between the characters was very real and very varied. The relationship between Fish Boy and his peers is so true, with the underlying bullying and the need to feel one of the crowd. I love the turn around with the Nike trainers being as uncool at the end of the book as they are cool at the start.

The loveliest relationships however are between the three members of the family and their need to feel normal whilst managing the difficult and confusing problems of ME. I am not sure I will look at a tin of beans in quite the same light again.

The chapters in the sea I have to admit were hard to read and harder to follow. I know it was a type of escapism, but I did not feel it added to the story and I found myself almost skimming these pages wanting the book to return to the family and the evolving friendships which were the parts of the book I enjoyed most. Luckily however reviews are personal as I am sure most readers will not agree with me!

Richie Upchurch, age 10

*I really like Fish Boy. It's about Billy whose mum is sick. He makes friends with a shoal of fish and a boy called Patrick. **It's sad, magic, funny and exciting. I think my friends will like it too. I really like 'Fish Boy' and I think it is a very good book.***

Billy is being bullied and his mum is sick, so not much is going OK when the new boy, Patrick, comes to his school. Patrick has strong hands, can do magic tricks and is very brave and kind. They go cycling and swimming but Patrick can't swim, so it's just Billy going in.

In the sea Billy meets a mackerel who talks to him in Hungarian and they make friends. After a while Billy becomes part of the mackerel shoal and he spends longer in the sea. Patrick waits to make sure he gets back OK but it's not obvious that Billy will.

My favourite bits are how Billy and Patrick become such good friends, looking out for each other. (In the end Billy teaches Patrick to swim.) I like how the fish

speak, how they are strong and friendly. And I like how Billy's family stick together even though his mum's sick and Billy is in a dangerous place.

Also I laughed out loud at some of the little things in the background like when Lorraine's dog Whisky does a squat wee, or when Billy makes a nose print in their cement wall.

'Fish Boy' is a great mix of sad, magic, friendly, funny and exciting. I think my friends will like it too.

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