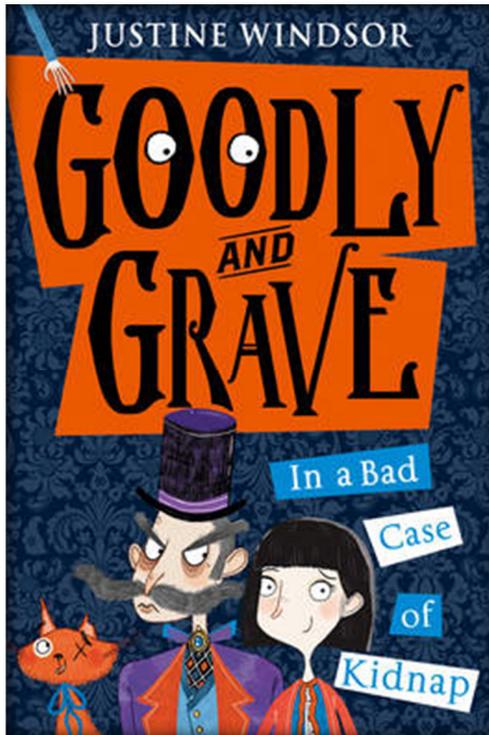


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Children'sBooks

LoveReading4kids Reader reviews of **Goodly and Grave** **In a Bad Case of Kidnap** By Justine Windsor

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



Buddug Griffith, age 9

A really exciting and funny story with an interesting setting, and I can't wait to read the next one!

I really liked this book - I thought it was very funny. I thought Lucy, the main character was very clever and I liked the story and the way the book throws you off the scent of the baddy, Amethyst. My favourite part was when Lucy stole the Wish Book from the secret library as it was really exciting!

I think lots of children my age will enjoy reading this as it's a really good story in an interesting setting. I can't wait to read the next 'Goodly and Grave' book as I really, really, really enjoyed this one!

Toby Little, age 9

'Goodly and Grave in a Bad Case of Kidnap' is a fantastic book by Justine Windsor.

In the book, the main character is called Lucy Goodly, and her parents are gamblers. First, her parents gamble on a ruby, but then, Lord Grave says "I'll only play against the girl if I get the girl if I win!" Now, that's not a situation you want to be in! And guess what, Lord Grave wins Lucy, and she has to go and work for him as a housemaid in his big mansion. But in that mansion, not everything is as it seems, and then, there are all the disappearing children, too...

I like how the author writes about magicians, because in the book, magicians are people who can control things with their mind that is cool – you could travel

round the world in a millisecond! There are lots of twists – the author persuades you to think of one then, and then something else happens!

If this book weren't so good, I might not have read it, because it's quite scary, but I like it that way! This is the best book ever!

Emily Lonsdale, age 11

A magical tale of mystery and adventure. This book has a slow start but soon pulls you into the adventure. Lucy Godly becomes a boot girl for the mysterious Mr Grave. In the book she unravels lots of plots, mysterious happenings and dark secrets.

*It was a bit slow to start for me but it soon picked up and I loved it. **It was a clever mix of mystery and adventure and I didn't want to put it down.***

My favourite character was Smell who was very funny particularly towards the end.

I look forward to the next book.

Ellen Cox, age 10

A gripping story about a girl who is taken from her parents but can she save the lives of other children without hurting herself?

An interesting storyline and a fun/funny outcome. It's good to see that the author has used two very different personalities to show that you can never judge somebody by their appearance.

Anya Fuller, age 9

This was a brilliant read and I couldn't put it down! Lucy was really adventurous!

Lucy Goodly is the new boot girl at Grave Hall. She works for the mysterious Lord Grave. But strange things happen in Grave Hall. The library only has four books (some of them magic), the statues move, and Lord Grave has a secret. Meanwhile, children are vanishing everywhere. Lucy is determined to find out what is going on.

This was a really good read and I couldn't put it down (literally)! I read it in just

a few days! The illustrations are really good and are a good match to the story.

My favourite characters were Lucy, because she was adventurous and curious, and Violet the scullery maid because she was really cute and kind.

My favourite part was when Lucy went into the library at Grave Hall for the first time because it was really funny!

I would recommend this for children age 9+ who like stories about magic and adventure and enjoy a good mystery. I highly recommend this book.

Emily Golding, age 10

Fabulously funny! Probably one of THE best books I've reviewed! Lucy is very daring but she needs to learn not to jump to conclusions!

Goodly and Grave is probably one of the best mystery books I've reviewed. In the knot of lies, Lucy starts to untangle the clues to find the kidnapper. Along her journey, she encounters evil snowmen, gambling lords, fierce panthers everlasting soup and chicken-with-more-body-parts-than-expected. Oh and talking cats. I couldn't help laughing! I've totally rated this 5 star! Justine Windsor is a brilliant author and Becca Moor's pictures perfectly give detail. Never before have I read a book like this! Absolutely Awesome!

Issie Ford, age 9

This book is full of unexpected twists! It keeps you guessing right until the end!

I really enjoyed this book! It was tense, dramatic and adventurous! This book is perfect for eager Harry Potter fans. My favourite character was Lucy, because she was cunning and not easily tricked by evil masterminds!!!!!!!!!!!!

Daniel Bisland age 9

This book is about a girl called Lucy, who is the new boot girl at Grave Hall, working for Lord Grave. The other servants are Vonk (a butler), Mrs Crawley (the cook), Violet (the young maid) and Becky. Soon, Lucy realises that weird things happen at Grave Hall like moving statues and magic books that make your dreams come true!

While Lucy is at Grave Hall, she notices that children start to go missing but why?

Lord Grave always talks about the mysterious MAAM but who or what is this?

Are the missing children related to MAAM?

What is Lord Grave's BIG secret?

You will need to read the book to find out all the answers!

If you like magic, adventure and suspense, then this book is for you!

*I really liked the book and I can't wait for the second one. I give it 5***** and recommend it to 9+*

Rosie Watch, Teacher

What a fun and exciting read, I had no problem at all in romping through this one in the time allowed. The clever plot and lively characters make it a very enjoyable book.

Lucy Goodly is both intelligent and naive as a character with a wonderful sense of the absurd. In some places the book is quite dark and almost sinister and in others quite humorous. The descriptions of the characters are very vivid and I love the addition of the illustrations although Mrs Crawley's interesting look is almost too hard to illustrate!

It is such a clever plot, not just the magic but the subtle ways it manifests itself. It goes beyond talking animals and imaginary figures and I love the idea of moving figures in the fireplace tiles and the playing cards re configuring themselves.

Beneath the magic and the humour is the theme of deception and loyalty and the message that things are not always what they seem.

I shall certainly be recommending this story to my classes. Thank you for allowing me to review this clever and very readable story.

Tracey Chorley

My daughter Robyn (8) tried to read this book but for some reason she just couldn't get into it. So I picked it up and thoroughly enjoyed it. It was a great read in a well-founded magical world with well-rounded characters. I'm hoping Robyn will try it again soon as I'm sure she'd love it too.

A great read with lots of plot twists and fantastical characters. Hoping there'll be more soon.

George Davies, age 8

'Goodly and Grave in a Bad Case of Kidnap' is a really good book because of the plot twists in it is really good. I love this book!

Harry, age 11 - Blenheim Primary School

This wasn't the book that is my favourite, I prefer books that you can't put down and but this is a bit boring.

I didn't really think this book was really for me but the best bit of it was when she got kidnapped and then you can't really put the book down.

Llew Harrison, age 10

!!!PACKED!!! I couldn't put the book down! When did I stop reading? About, 11pm (I started at eight)!

Amazing..... Epic..... Humorous. This book has it covered.

Lucy Goodly lives a sorrowful life, a life of gambling, starvation and fixing things after her parents "fixed" them themselves. So yes, a pretty bad life, but when her parents gamble her away to Lord Grave, Lucy wishes to live that old boring life again...

As well as trying to escape, Lucy is also trying to track down the evil Ma'am, who she infers is the master mind behind a series of kidnaps, but all is not as it seems.

*Star Rating:*****!*

Age Rating:8-10"

Toby Crawford, age 9

This is an amazing book! I like the plot and the characters, but if you like more complicated writing this might not be for you. The story itself is a magical mystery adventure.

I really enjoyed Goodly and Grave but found it a bit of an easy read. The characters have a range of personalities from bold and courageous to shy and timid.

The plot is based around Lucy, her family are very poor and gamble for money

luckily she has a magical card that ensures her the best hand in the game. One day a strange figure named Lord Grave wants to play a game of cards with Lucy but she realises it's much more serious... he wants to gamble for her.

The only thing I didn't like was I found it a bit easy to read so it didn't take long.

If you enjoyed 'Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events' you might like this.

Constance May Peers, age 10

This book has you hooked from the very first page and keeps you guessing until the very end. A great read!

I have thoroughly enjoyed reading this book filled with mystery. It has you hooked from the very first page and has you guessing until the very last word. My favourite character is Lucy Goodly who has been taken to Lord Grave's mansion and is working as a boot girl. Lucy realises something mysterious is going on and she's determined to find out the truth. As Lucy journeys through the book you go with her piecing the clues together. This is not like any other book I have read and is my favourite ever mystery story. Another reason I adore this book is it has a tremendous twist at the end leaving you speechless with no words! I would recommend this brilliant book to people who like mystery, cunning plans and magical mayhem. The only bad thing about this book is you can't put it down!

Romilly Dallyfitsimons, age 10

I love this book it is full of magic adventure and mayhem, it is amazing.

This book is amazing it has a lot of adventure and mystery it is a really good book and I would recommend it. You should read this book if you are really into mystery sometimes it doesn't make sense but that's what makes it funny. Lucy is a very young girl who plays cards with her mum and dad against people and one time she got taken away by lord grave and then she gets taken away by Amethyst who adopted a boy called Bertie who is lord graves son. She gets an opportunity to go back with her parents but she says no and Lucy and her cat stay with lord grave.