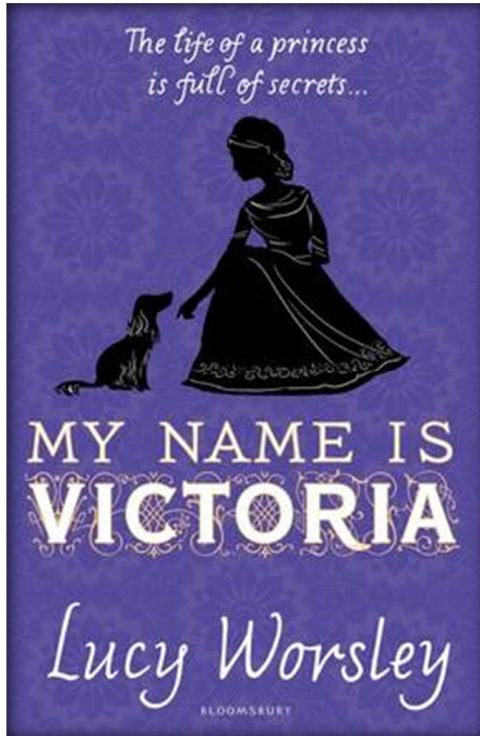


Helping you choose the best books for children

B L O O M S B U R Y

LoveReading4kids Reader reviews of **My Name Is Victoria** by Lucy Worsley

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



Mia Goodman, age 10

FAB! The best historical fiction novel that I've ever read. It was so fun to read and find out the adventures Miss V has when she goes to Victoria's house.

WOW! An amazing read which I'd recommend for ages 9+. Full of fun and enjoyment to read. Perfect for Historical Fiction. I couldn't take my eyes off this book, it was such a great book to be able to read. If I could describe this book in 3 words, they would be: fun, exciting and enjoyable.

If you're able to read it like me, you might find as I did that there are some parts and you just want the story to have less

description. I found some moments boring and a bit repetitive. I wish the story would come to life a bit more.

However, apart from that, it was amazing to read I can't wait to read Lucy Worsley's other books.

Enjoy reading!

Ella O'Gorman, age 12

'My Name Is Victoria' is an absolute page turner. I thoroughly enjoyed this book and it gave me everything I love in a book, including, history, drama, mystery and unusual twists. This book gives us an absorbing insight into the life of the young Queen Victoria, as we follow her development from a rather overwrought child to a young lady, who

could still throw the occasional tantrum. I felt really sorry for her and for her companion, who was also called Victoria, being kept away from the world in Kensington Palace and not being allowed to really go anywhere. They try to prepare Victoria for the day when she will become Queen by making her follow a strict set of rules, which makes her life miserable. Victoria's companion is called Miss V and she really developed into this strong, brave character that Victoria could rely on. I loved the twist at the end of the book and I think all the other characters really added their own special elements to the story. This book took me back on an incredible journey in time. I really hope Lucy Worsley writes another book soon.

Emma Corden, age 11

'My Name is Victoria' is a book perfect for all those out there who love historic books.

Another great book from the author Lucy Worsley who has previously written a book called 'Eliza Rose'. If you are a lover of history then this amazing book is for you.

Miss V. Conroy is daughter of Sir John and although she doesn't know it is a cousin to the young Princess Victoria. Miss V is sent to Kensington palace to be a companion to the Princess. As the girls get older Victoria is told she must marry Prince Albert. But he and Miss V are deeply in love Albert proposed but Miss V says NO because of her duty to Victoria. Victoria doesn't want to be Queen so the two girls have a plan. So that the love birds can marry and Victoria doesn't have to be Queen. Read the book to find out their amazing life changing plan!

Zoe Basson, age 9

I love this book more than I can explain.

It showed just how much historians can hide, and how many scandals there really are in the royal family. It's a mix of entertaining fiction and interesting fact.

This book perfectly explains Queen Victoria's childhood. She has that murky darkness with a glint of light.

I would recommend this to anyone and everyone.

Cally Evans, age 10

An outstanding book that definitely deserves a place on your bookshelf!

Have you ever wondered what Queen Victoria's childhood was like? Well here you have it, though not historically accurate! Victoria Conroy (normally called Miss Vic) has been asked by her father to be a playmate to young Princess Victoria. Miss Vic agrees but isn't prepared for what lays ahead of her ... Lucy Worsley has spun a tale so detailed and amazing that if I didn't know the actual truth I would have believed it! 'My Name is Victoria' has been beautifully written with an awesome storyline. I would recommend this book to anyone between the age of 8-12 that likes a brilliant plot because this book has an amazing and very clever storyline. From this book I learnt a few true interesting facts that I didn't know about Queen Victoria's childhood. Overall this book was an excellent read and definitely one to keep.

Ella Jones, age 12

I loved reading 'My Name is Victoria' and read it quickly. I love how you don't realise all you're learning about Princess Victoria, the Kensington system and what the royal was really like. Girls-10+.

My name is Victoria is a very interesting book. It seems like you're reading non-fiction because the whole Kensington system is a rather far-fetched idea, too similar to a damsel in distress situation but there is truth to the story. Which is great because you learn about the facts while being fully wrapped up in the exiting story.

I really enjoyed the book and read it quickly.

I would recommend this story to girls 10+ because it talks about the complex royal family tree, conspiracies and older topics.

Lisa Redmond

Lucy Worsley's second book for young readers is the story of Miss V. Conroy who is brought to Kensington Palace to act as a companion to the young Princess Victoria. Her father John Conroy is the architect of the Kensington system of which Miss V. is expected to become a part, because Miss V. is very good at keeping secrets. Her father calls her his mouse because she is so calm and quiet in contrast to the wild and wilful Princess. The system is meant to

protect the Princess from those who would do her harm and to keep her away from the bad influences including her mother the Duchess of Kent. Miss V. is very soon torn between loyalty to her father and her growing friendship with Victoria as she begins to see how the system keeps Victoria locked away from the world and might even be damaging to her health.

This book is an absolute delight and will appeal of course to fans of Lucy's television work and her previous novel for young adults *Eliza Rose* but I believe 'My Name is Victoria' will have even broader appeal, with a successful first series of Victoria and a second series confirmed the interest in the younger years of Queen Victoria has never been so intense. ***With this book I believe Lucy Worsley has really found her voice as a writer of historical fiction for children.*** Ideal for fans of Katherine Woodfine and Emma Carroll.

Lois Peck, Year 7, Dormston Secondary School

This is an amazing adventure filled story telling how Victoria lived her life as a child before she became Queen. Although she didn't feel ready for the position, she respected this was her duty. I particularly liked reading about Arthur and how he was once a friend who teased her quite a lot but they then reunited later and became best friends again.

I think it is a truly wonderful book and I love how it sent me into my own world. I could just imagine being there and felt I was on a wonderful journey to see what happens.

I rate this book 5 out of 5 stars

Jessica Holme, age 10

This is a truly amazing book. I think that this book is for every age, especially for people who are studying the fascinating Victorian's.

The story is set just before the Victorian times and is about a girl called Miss V. Conroy. She is set to make friends with the nearly queen Victoria. She needs to do this to protect her from the dangers of the rest of Victoria's family. When Victoria's 18th birthday arrives, and she is destined to become queen, she asks Miss V. Conroy to be queen instead of herself because Victoria would have to marry her best friend's boyfriend.

I loved how Lucy (the author) wrote the book as Miss V herself so that it actually makes you feel like you are going through all of the drama instead of reading

about it.

I didn't like John Conroy because he was almost forcing Miss V to become Victoria's friend. But if he wasn't in there, I might be a bit more disappointed because just about every single book (except non-fiction) has a mean character or villain.

This is a truly amazing book. I think that this book is for every age, especially for people who are studying the fascinating Victorians.

As a rating, I give it 10/10 for its amazing flow and its lovely characters.

Hannah Minton, age 11

A wonderful view into the early life of Queen Victoria. My name is Victoria is an elaborate book about a girl who intervened in an historic story.

Written how historians imagine it was during the period of time portrayed in the story, the book tells a thrilling tale of royal fate. I felt it was a bit slow to start but once it got going I really enjoyed it. A fascinating character, Miss V starts the book as she departs her home in order to meet the princess, a very fussy stubborn girl as you will discover. Watch the princess's protector working hard to save her from all those who lurk to kill her, and see them strengthen their friendship- a thriller.

I enjoyed this book because it helped me see the past in a relevant and detailed way, not to mention exciting. In addition, it made me understand the differences between rich and poor, present and past in an easier way. I loved the character Victoria because she made me laugh at her stubborn attitude and sudden melt downs. Her response to becoming queen was not that of an ordinary girl; who would love the prospect; but of a child who wanted to live a small and secretive life.

Rose Hopkins

*"My name is Victoria" is a wonderful book. Its historical backbone meant I discovered a lot about Queen Victoria's childhood – I felt I was learning a lot of facts whilst enjoying a good story. **It was an easy book to get into. There is a twist to the storyline which makes it intriguing and thought provoking** – what if Miss V really had become queen? **It's a thumbs up from me.***

Rosie Watch - teacher

As a lover of history this book did appeal and I thought the twist at the end rather an interesting and not altogether an impossible alternative to historical fact.

However, I feel the pace of the story is a little too slow and I am not sure the day to day life of two somewhat bored Victorias would capture many a child's attention. The dominance of Lord Conroy and his plots to control the system around him is almost too subtle for many children to even notice, let alone find believable. I am not sure that the administration of laudanum would really be understood, or the effects it would have on the two ladies. I think too if there had been more description or more comparison with the lives of children today, it would be more captivating. Maybe the complications of dressing, the monotony of the meals, how did they get the girls hair to curl would have made the book come alive. I did however enjoy the way the children changed as they grew up and fell in love. The latter chapters were definitely more gripping and page turning, as always I try and match the book to the children I teach and I struggled with this story to find a match.

*I am sorry if this sounds negative but **I don't think this book really brought alive the early years of Queen Victoria although it was a pleasant and enjoyable read.***

Isobel Eagle

A thrilling tale where Victoria realises the truth about the people she loves...

Sir John Conroy recruited his daughter Victoria-Miss V Conroy- to look after Princess Victoria. Miss V Conroy listens to Victoria and her true feelings, not just about her safety. All Victoria wants in her life is a little freedom; maybe the system may not be the best thing for her after all. When a wonderful German prince arrives at the castle, Victoria and Miss V Conroys live forever, in a way the outside world could never know of!

This historical fantasy targets students with an interest in the lives of the key figures of history, or those who would enjoy a novel including the journey of two young children becoming strong, independent women.

I enjoyed the relationships between the characters, I found when they stood up to the power hungry, manipulative "father figure" inspirational, and also

*showing women do not always need the help of a man to do everything !
However, at times it was unclear to me which parts of the novel were history or fiction.*

*Overall, I would recommend this book, as I was engrossed with it at all times.
Also, you get an insight of what life was like for a young princess and future queen.*