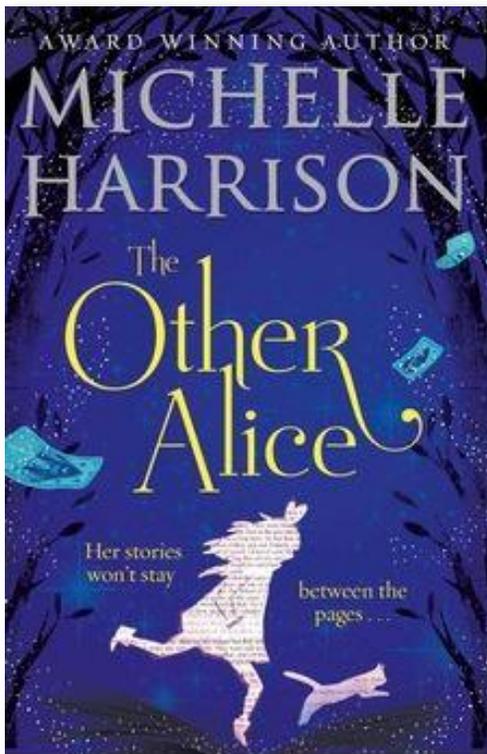


Helping you choose the best books for children

LoveReading4kids Reader reviews of **The Other Alice** By Michelle Harrison

SIMON & SCHUSTER

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



Jack Smith, age 11

Ever wondered what it would be like if a character from your favourite book came to life? Or maybe every character from that whole book? Well with this book you can be part of all the twists and turns of when imagination becomes reality! It all starts off when young Michael, or as he likes to be called, Midge comes home to find his sister Alice gone, and in her place a black cat. But, the strange thing is, this was no ordinary cat; this one talked and drank tea! Suddenly Midge remembers that last year Alice had been working on her first novel and had gone slightly crazy when she couldn't finish it. Alice had started seeing characters from the novel appear before her trying to get the notebook to give themselves their own

*ending. Had this happened again?? Follow Midge on his journey to stop the other characters from destroying his world before he finds a way to return them to theirs! **This is a story of friends, enemies and betrayal. I would recommend this book to the ages of 10+ and I would definitely read it again!!!!***

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www.smithyboysbookreviews.wordpress.com

Edel Waugh

This magical story is about one family, particularly Alice and her younger sibling Midge. Alice likes to write stories and Midge loves to hear them. When one day Alice goes missing it does not take long before Midge realises that Alice's stories and real life have collided and there is more to the stories his sister told him than meets the eye.

This was an awesome story combining the fictional and real world, and giving us a really good mystery and adventure, two of my favourite things!

This is a perfect read for those who enjoyed 'Inkheart' or love books about books and bookish things.

Alice East, age 11

Have you ever wanted a story to come true and the characters to jump off the page? Well then this is a book for you because that is exactly what happens.

Alice is a storyteller and she writes and tells her stories to her younger brother Midge. When she goes missing Midge goes out to find Alice with a few new friends from Alice's story. This book had an excellent, thrilling plot and was packed with adventure and surprises as well as some brilliant description and vocabulary. I have read and reviewed one of her other books which was also excellent and I look forward to reading the rest of her books. Michelle Harrison is a lovely author and sent reviewers the book in a golden package with some extra information about herself and she also sent a small hand crafted cut out of a character. It was all really cool.

'The Other Alice' and the author, Michelle Harrison are both amazing. I give this book 100/100."

Jane Emmins, age 12

'The Other Alice' is quite possibly the best book I have ever read. With its intriguing characters and twisting plot I just couldn't put it down!

I was gripped as soon as I opened 'The Other Alice'! The genius author has created a character that, even though she can't speak, everyone feels close with. My favourite character, though is Tabitha - a talking cat, with quirky ways and

human-like mannerisms. My favorite part of the book is when Midge speaks to Alice on the night of the summoning. This moment is magical and also tense as you don't know how long Alice will stay in the mirror. I was quite scared of the character Dolly who was always lurking in the shadows waiting to jump out on our characters. I hope that 'The Other Alice' does really well in the future and that other people enjoy it as much as I have.

Rosie Jeffery, age 14

*I really enjoyed 'The Other Alice' by Michelle Harrison; **the many plot twists and fun moments in this novel more than make up for its slower pacing, as they help spread the plot twists evenly.***

Another memorable trait of 'The Other Alice' is the amazing variety of characters, which help make the story more exciting with their diversity; you could practically write an entire book with them merely interacting with each other.

Yet another great aspect of this novel is the outstanding storyline. Although what I mentioned earlier still stands, Michelle Harrison's plot makes the best possible use of all characters to complement one another, most notably in the interactions between Piper and Midge. Further dark mirrors and parallels also enhance the story.

Overall, I highly recommend this book if you are looking for a more in-depth novel. It may start off slow, but if you persevere in reading I guarantee you won't be disappointed!

Sam Harper, age 11

A fantastically brilliant adventure full of riddles and magic. I loved it!

Alice loves inventing stories for her younger brother Midge and she's really good at it but she must finish each story that she creates, no matter how crazy the ending is. When she sees a character from one of her stories in real life Alice worries that she is going mad but unfortunately she isn't. She has left one of her stories without an ending and the characters that it contains, both good and bad, have been unleashed into the real world. Each of them wants to find Alice, they want her to write their endings, but Alice has disappeared. Midge meets Gypsy Spindle, a character who looks exactly like Alice but is cursed to 6 yrs. of silence, Piper, a young thief and Tabitha, a talking cat who drinks tea with two

sugars. But the strange Sheridan Ramblebrook, curator of the Museum of Unfinished Stories, the dangerous villain Dolly and murderer Dorothy have also been released into the real world. Together Midge, Gypsy, Piper and Tabitha try to use the creepy old tradition of the Summoning to find Alice. On the night of the Summoning, a person can be 'Summoned' by their 'Likeness' and can then be asked a question, but only one. To their surprise the magic works and Alice appears to them in a cup of tea. Midge cleverly gets answers from Alice before asking his one precious question but they are left with riddles to solve and clues to follow. They need the help of Alice's dad, the mysterious Ramone Silver, but first they have to find him and time is running out. They must find Alice, her life depends on it.

I really loved the riddles, magic and unexpected twist. It reminded me of 'Inkheart' and the final scene on the barge was so exciting, I just couldn't stop reading. Brilliant!"

Alexander Bisland, age 10

*Alice is a cursed writer and because of her curse, one day Alice goes missing. A mysterious cat appears from one of her stories but what is the cat doing here? Midge, Alice's brother must find her and break a curse to stop characters from her books coming to life. On his journey to find Alice, Midge makes friends but when you make friends, you also make enemies! Can Midge and his new friends save Alice before the villain ends their lives for good? **I really enjoyed this book because I always wanted to read on and find the answers to the riddles.** I recommend this book to 11+ because it is quite long and **at times the story is quite dark and it leaves you on the edge of your seat.** When my book arrived, I was surprised to find a little gold envelope with it. When I opened it, there was a small handcrafted black cat; I didn't know its significance until I read the story. I am going to use the cat to make a new bookmark! I give this amazing book 5*.*

Cara Andersons, age 11

***An amazing book! I didn't want to put it down! I love the style of Michelle Harrison, it's so captivating.** It was not what I expected it to be. The thought and imagination to think of all the highly interesting characters is amazing! I love how there is riddles in there too, it makes it different from the majority of other books. The story is very adventurous and lots of things happen which make u feel like you're in the story and forget that you're sat on your bed*

reading it! I will be recommending it to everyone, #newfavebook!

Rosie Watch

*The air of mystery arrived with the package and the little black cat cut-out tucked inside. For a children's book, it was gripping. **The plot was clever and so well planned and I loved the way everything linked and overlapped.** I know my copy did not have the art work, but the descriptions were so full and creative, I hardly missed them. I loved the cunning use of clues and riddles and was ridiculously proud of myself for solving the riddle of the tail, though I was probably meant to!! The characters jumped off the page, even those that were meant to stay on it, although throughout the book, I couldn't help feeling Midge was a girl, behaving more like a sister than a brother. **This book will definitely be going on my classroom bookshelf.***

Year 7 pupil, Dormston School

*This book is about a girl called Alice who goes missing the day before the summoning. She has a brother called Mitch who has to find where she has gone. There are lots of twists in the tale; a talking cat, book characters that come alive and much more! This story can be very scary in places but it is also full of mystery. My favourite character was Tabitha because she can be very funny but can also be a handful. The part of the book I loved most was when Mitch met a woman called Dolly because it kept you guessing who or what she was. What I disliked at first was that it isn't my usual type of book because it sounded very scary and I am not normally into mystery books but once I got into it, **I really enjoyed it and it's opened my mind to try different genres that I wouldn't usually choose.** Although frightening in places, overall I really enjoyed this book and would recommend it to secondary school readers who enjoy getting engrossed in a story that keeps you thinking! **I would give this book a rating of 5/5***

Aimee Sweet, age 14

***Katherine Rundell called this book 'gripping' and I totally agree.** It alternates between one character's point of view and another character's journal. Through this structure, we learn more about each character and their motivations. It is extremely original and the two main characters, Ben and Hobie are fascinating. Ben has a gift - one that opens up a portal to a different*

world. For readers who have enjoyed Patrick Ness, and age 13 plus. I would give this 4 stars out of five.