

LoveReading4kids Reader reviews of Longbow Girl by Linda Davies

Below are the complete reviews, written by LoveReading4kids members.

Isaac Phelan, age 11

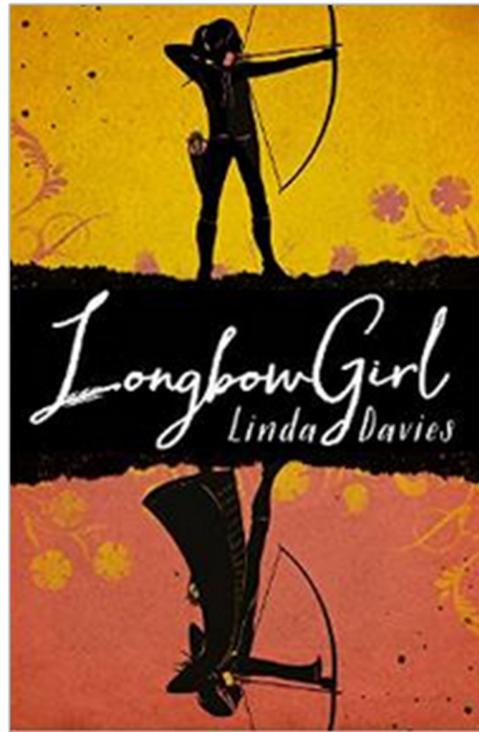
'Longbow Girl' is one of the best books I've ever read as it is an action packed and thrilling adventure to embark on. It is impossible to put down once you've started reading.

Merry Owen stands in-between an age long rivalry between families. However faced with the loss of her own home, she has no choice but to dig up the past to save her family, but all secrets come at a price...

I liked this book because it combined time travelling, history and adventure at the same time. I also liked how there was a massive rivalry between the two families.

My favourite character is King Henry VIII as the story gives you a proper idea of what he looks like in the 16th century.

I would recommend this book for children of ages of 9+. Fans of J.K. Rowling and J.R.R. Tolkien will love this book.



Neha Saji, age 12

'Longbow Girl' is a magical tale about a girl, Merry, discovering the true depths of her family's, the Owen's, roots whilst trying to help them pay of their debts. I recommend this to all girls because within the book Merry stands for women empowerment, that makes a heart-warming read between us and the book; enables us to really relate to the Longbow Girl.

Once I really got into the book, a couple of chapters in, I couldn't put the book down, I read the rest of the book all in one go. There's something about the book that makes it really original. It's not set in one time but two, and does not include a time machine to cause that. I was really able to imagine the events that occurred in the book and escape reality due to the vivid description that was given by Linda Davies.

*I personally loved Merry's character. She had a rebellious side as well as being this sweet and helpful girl. Her friendship with James was so touching mostly because of James' parents' disapproval. Only by reading 'Longbow Girl', will you understand how deep and strong their friendship really is. **Within the book is a true adventure, with many obstacles on the way to face.** Linda Davies is one moving author!*

Sam Harper, age 11

A truly gripping, massively exciting, time-travelling adventure.

When Merry Owens' family farm is threatened with repossession, she knows she must do something to try to save it but she has no idea what. No idea, that is, until she stumbles across a book, one of the lost tales of the Mabinogion, underneath a fallen tree. She talks to her friend, James de Courcy, whose family are age old enemies of the Owens, about it and they go to Professor Parks for help. The decoded book tells of a River of Time which could transport the reader to Tudor times and the treasures that they would find there. It seems unbelievable until Merry actually travels to the past and steals a de Courcy ring. The ring ends up in James' hands and, when he follows Merry on her second trip through the River of Time, he is locked up as a thief. Merry is also wanted for stealing a horse and her crime carries the penalty of death. Her longbow skills might just save her if she enters the archery competition. She may even be able to rescue James and settle the feud between their families but Merry doesn't realise that there could be something evil standing in her way.

Longbow Girl is a truly gripping story. It took a while to build up to the action but once there, it exploded across the page. The story was modelled on the author's own childhood and I think her experiences made the book even more believable. A massively exciting, time-travelling adventure.

Bryher

I really enjoyed 'Longbow Girl', it is a must read for all hunger

games fans and young budding archers. I loved the plot twists and red herrings. I also enjoyed all the welsh words. It is a good book for young teens and older.

Longbow girl is about a fifteen year old girl called Merry Owen who lives in Wales and is keeping the family tradition of the longbow alive. Unfortunately her family are running out of money and she finds out that they may lose their family home. Luckily she stumbles across something that could change her family fortune.

My favourite character is James because he believes anything is possible if you try and that's what I believe too. After reading this book I would like to start longbow or some sport like that.

Sue Wilsher

Rich with historical and cultural details, 'Longbow Girl' is a powerful story about loyalty, tradition and being true to yourself.

Strong characters are at the core of the book. Merry Owen is the longbow girl, trained to be her father's successor; James de Courcy, her neighbour, son of her family's sworn enemies and her best friend, is desperate to follow his dream of being a footballer. Their relationship, the loyalty and support they offer each other, makes them very likable, believable children. They both develop and discover more about themselves- and each other- over the course of the story.

The setting of the story is described with loving attention to detail; references made to real places offer realism to the 'modern' part of the plot whilst links with Welsh legend and folk law entwine this with the 'time slip' sections of the narrative seamlessly. Similarly, the author's obvious knowledge of archery adds to the reader's understanding and enjoyment.

Full of adventure and mystery, this is a dramatic, exciting read that has something for everyone to enjoy.

Stephanie Chaplin

I loved this book because it was full of adventures and so much detail I can see the scene happening in my mind.

The book is about a boy and a girl, both aged 15, who go on an adventure back in time. Merry Owens discovers a book and is curious to learn more about it. It turns out to be a clue to a magical place in the Beacons which can travel you

through time. In the Tudors time Merry meets a healer named Mair and her ancestors. Henry VIII decides to hold a tourney and Merry, as one of the Owens, steps forward to compete against other archers in a longbow challenge.

The main characters are Merry Owens and James de Courcy. They are clearly best friends and have known each other for a long time. Merry is a skilled archer and rider. James loves playing football.

It is difficult for them to be friends because their families are arch-enemies since the Owens gained some of the De Courcy's land when longbow man Owen saves the Prince.

My favourite part was when Merry knocked out the jailer and stole the keys to escape. My favourite character was James because he is brave and stands up to his parents, and he loves football like me.

It's nice to hear a story based near where I live. I also speak Welsh so I could understand the Welsh in the book. I am fascinated by the longbow and how much the author had in common with Merry, the girl in the story. This book is filled with my favourite things archers, history and horses.

I can't wait to start my next book and review it just like I've done with this one. I would love to read more books by this author or like this one.

Anastasia, age 11

'Longbow Girl' is a story which really opened my imagination into its world of emotion and action. Linda Davies has created a true masterpiece which I hope others can enjoy and love.

One of my favourite books is now 'Longbow Girl' as I simply could not turn away from it. Reading was like I was on a journey into a new world and I cannot wait to find out where it will take me next. I recommend this book to anyone who loves a bit of action and tension.

Maya Watson, age 9

This book is amazing! It was a real cliff hanger and I couldn't stop reading it.

The main theme for me was friendship – between the main character Merry Owen and her best friend, James. Also, family is a main theme as it is about Merry and her family and the fact that Merry's and James' families are arch enemies. I loved Merry because she was brave and strong. The book felt really

well written as it was fast-paced and exciting. I would read books like this all the time if I could. I would say it is the book I have enjoyed most this summer.

Chloe, age 11

This is a book full of adventure, danger, secrets and excitement. When Mary Owen discovers a foreign book in the tree roots of a fallen tree she discovers it can change her family's future.

Mary Owen faces the loss of her family's farm to the De Courcys her family's rivals. But then she discovers a foreign book in the tree roots of a fallen tree a treasure that can turn back time and change her past filled with untold secrets and great dangers. But is Merry brave enough? Merry is brave enough for most things she is a skilled rider and fabulous with a longbow but is she ready for the greatest adventure of her life?