

LoveReading4kids Reader reviews of The Dreamsnatcher by Abi Elphinstone

Below are the complete reviews, written by LoveReading4kids members.

Lily, age 11

This book is a thrilling adventure mystery set in a gypsy camp in an enchanted forest full of spirits.

Moll's gypsy parents were killed by Skull, a witch doctor when she was little. Moll still lives at the camp with Gryff, her Wildcat.

Every night Skull performs a curse called The Dream Snatch which lures Moll towards his camp, but luckily, Oak, the head of the camp, always found her and took her back to the camp.

When Skull's henchmen eventually kidnap Moll, she meets Alfie, a boy from Skull's camp who decides to help her find the Amulets of Truth which can stop Skull doing evil deeds.



Before his death, Moll's father threw the camp's oracle bones into the fire and when the fire died down, he decoded the name 'Dew Hill Maiden'. Little did Moll know that the owner of this name would play a massive role in finding the Amulets...

This book is really mysterious and gripping – I couldn't put it down. The descriptions of the surroundings were very vivid and Abi really makes you care about the characters. I can't wait for the sequel in 2016!

Joshua Zinkin, age 9

I liked that the book was fast paced and that there was always something happening.

*I found the book really hard to get into at the beginning and it needed lots of revisiting and explaining. It's about a girl called Moll who lives a gypsy existence in a forest but is haunted by the dark side - a Dreamsnatcher who is trying to kill her. Moll is brave and daring and finds ways and strength to escape being taken and is protected by a team of gypsies. **The book was exciting once you got into it but lots of the language was quite difficult.***

Millie Barrett, age 8

'The Dreamsnatcher' is an intense book full of mystery, suspense and SPOOKS! It is a fantasy, mystery book. I would recommend this book to people who are 8 years of age and older.

'The Dreamsnatcher' is set in the woods (Deepwood in Tangled Forest).

My favourite character was Moll because she is strong, wild and full of adventure! She has long, dark hair and she wears lots of dresses. Moll is loyal, brave, VERY resilient and VERY resourceful. I like her because she tries her best in every move she makes.

I enjoyed the mysteries and cliff-hangers in the book. It is also very detailed so even though there are no illustrations, it creates pictures in your mind!

My favourite part was when Hemlock and Scull were gone from the wood because it was a relief for Moll and her friends.

If the author wrote another book in the same style I might not choose to read it because there are too many fights.

I would recommend this book to people who are 8 years of age and older. They would typically like Harry Potter, adventure books and spooky, scary books.

Alice East, age 10

'The Dreamsnatcher' is a book set in olden times, where people were living in camps and farming for a living. Molly lives at Oaks camp, most things about her are normal except for the fact that she does not have any parents.

Molly likes to explore around the camp but there is one boundary, which is the river. One day Molly decides to sneak across the river and when she does she discovers the truth about her parents.

What I really liked about this book was that it never became boring as there was always something exciting going on. *I thought it was a really interesting setting as not many books are set like this. 'The Dreamsnatcher' had a simple language style to read.*

*I would recommend this book to both girls and boys who like exciting adventure books. **This book was fantastic and I would give it 8.5/10.***

Sidney Greenslade, age 11

A magical story of mystery and danger, 'The Dreamsnatcher' is full of great personalities and wild landscapes.

'The Dreamsnatcher' is the cleverly written story of Moll, a young gypsy, and her wildcat Gryff who both feature in an ancient prophesy.

Although Moll is a brave, adventurous girl she is not prepared for this twist in her life. When Moll's beloved cob Jinx is stolen, Moll heads into Deepwood to find him. She is also heading into danger, for in Deepwood lives Skull, an evil witchdoctor who uses curses and dark magic.

The most terrible of these curses is the Dreamsnatch – a curse to drag Moll closer and closer to Skull against her will. Moll must break the Dreamsnatch, escape Deepwood and discover how her long lost parents died. She must place her trust in others and her wildcat Gryff to overcome the Dreamsnatch and live to tell the tale.

'The Dreamsnatcher' is an enjoyable tale, though I found it a little slow at the beginning. Once I got into the story I rather enjoyed it and, although it wasn't my favourite book ever, it did have some great features. The world Moll lives in is an exciting, wild place and I found all the characters had really interesting personalities and were very well described, especially Gryff.

'The Dreamsnatcher' is a good book which, after a slow start, I read really quickly. I think I will probably read it again.

Michelle Toy

A fantastic, magical debut Children's novel 'The Dreamsnatcher' is a dream to read!

*This book has everything! Magic, talismans, woods, tree spirits, rituals, voodoo wax figures, tree houses, oracle bones, witch doctors, riddles and puzzles, touching friendships, fab characters and an adorable wildcat! This book is a real magical adventure. **The keywords that jumped out to me from this book were friendship, family, community and courage.***

Right from the start of the book debut author Abi Elphinstone captures the atmosphere and pace perfectly.

The sense of good and bad is fantastically built up in the readers imagination with a very head strong, brave and determined lead character called Moll, a protective loving wildcat called Gryff and a truly terrifying villain, Skull, whose whole presence is spooky and provides nerve-wracking tension and I think even Lord Voldemort would be quaking in his robes!

Following these characters on a magical journey through woods, heaths, old cottages, rivers and dreamsnatches is completely page turning and with short fast paced snappy chapters the pages really did just keep turning.

I will be recommending this book to all the children (and adults) I know as one to read in 2015 and a fabulous author to keep an eye on and with the ending setting up book two nicely and is portrayed in such a way that you actually feel scared for what is coming I cannot wait for 2016 when the next book is published!

A fantastic, magical debut Children's novel 'The Dreamsnatcher' is a dream to read!

<http://talesofyesterday.co.uk/2014/12/dreamsnatcher-abi-elphinstone>

Corey Yuile, age 9

I am the victim of a dreamsnatch! Love Magic? Love Action and Adventure? 'The Dreamsnatcher' is the perfect read!

First, I'll speak about the main characters. There is: Moll, Oak, Alfie, Sidy and Gryff - The cat. Gryff was my favourite character because he reminded me of my cat Louie. Louie always protects me and sleeps at the bottom of my bed. He has brown stripy fur and licks me a lot!

Secondly, my favourite bit. I loved the part where it goes on about all the strange and gruesome things in the tree house. I wish I had a tree house to keep disgusting things in to scare my Mom!

Thirdly, what impression did it leave on me? I was pretty relieved because I

thought Gryff was going to die!

Fourthly, would I change anything? No I would not change anything. It is perfectly fine as it is. I really enjoyed it!

If I would recommend this book to another person - yes. My younger step-brother although I'm concerned he might not be able to read all the long words...but he would have fun reading the adventure like I did.

I think the sort of person that would like this book will have had a taste of adventure and like magic and fun!

*Now, in conclusion, I am going to rate this book out of 5! Before I do this I have got to say this book was exquisite and I am looking forward to reading the sequel. Also well done to the author of the book which is Abi Elphinstone. **5 out of 5 from me!***

<http://talesofyesterday.co.uk/2014/12/coreys-corner-dreamsnatcher>

Jasmine Harris-Hart, age 12

This is a book about Molly (Moll) Pecksniff a Romany gypsy and her wildcat Gryff. Full of magic, mystery and adventures!

When Moll is woken up in the middle of the night she finds herself in the forest near her camp, lured there by a chant of some kind...

I liked reading this book even though I didn't get gripped by the plot.

I would think this book is suitable for 9+ and for both girls and boys.

www.jasminesblogonbooks.blogspot.co.uk

Cara Anderson, age 9 and 1/2

Very intriguing. It's quite spooky, especially when Oak tells Moll that Skull is after her and Gryff and that her Mum and Dad had died from skull. But quite exiting when Moll tries to get her hours Jinks back!

Eleanor Cookdale, age 10

An exciting and terrifying adventure about Moll and her wildcat Gryff have to find Amulets to prevent the evil Shadowmask Skull taking over the forest.

In this story the gypsy Moll, Gryff her Wildcat and Sidy, her best friend, must

*fight the evil Skull, a Shadowmask, who wants to kill them and destroy the amulates for which they search. Their aim is to save the forest and his is to destroy it. **This adventure story is both funny and incredibly scary. I really enjoyed reading the book because it was so exciting and full of twists and turns, and also Sidy was very funny.** I like Moll because she is so brave and adventurous and because she lies on Tuesdays and Thursdays! I am looking forward to the rest of the series.*

Sophie Bridges, age 12

***'The Dreamsnatcher' by Abi Elpinstone is a good book and the theme is good and the ideas are well thought through.** Although the when I first got the book I thought it was boring because the cover wasn't very exiting but the book itself was quite good.*

Evie Hollingshead, age 10

An exciting book full of suspense that made me want to read until the end!

Such a fantastic read, 'Dreamsnatcher' is a book for those who like an exciting read not knowing what may happen next!

I liked the main character and felt that the more I read the more I got to know her.

Chloe, age 11

This is an exciting adventure about a gypsy girl and her friend, a wildcat called Gryff. It gripped me from the first sentence.

In this story Moll and Gryff have to fight Skull's dark magic before it is too late. This book took me to Moll's world. I felt like I was there watching it all happen. I couldn't put the book down because I needed to know what was going to happen next! I would give this book a 9/10 and recommended it to my friends.