



Helping you choose the best books for children

Love reading 4kids Reader reviews of **The Bombs That Brought Us Together** by Brian Conaghan

B L O O M S B U R Y

Below are the complete reviews, written by the Love reading 4kids members.



Jack Brendon Smith, age 11

Full of action, adventure and tension!! I was so glued to this book, I finished it in three days!!!

This book is about Charlie Law, a teenage boy who was going to go on an adventure. It has very strong language and is definitely not suitable for ages under 11 or 12. I like the book because it's full of excitement and tension and it's a definite re-read, I couldn't put it down! All the characters are likeable as they all play their part to create tension and make the story better. When I first saw the cover my mum said: 'It looks great but it's a shame it's another war book', thinking it was about World War One or Two, but it's not. It's completely

made up places and the story line is totally fictional so don't be put off by that thought! Charlie Law, Pavel Duda, a mission and a plan. Read the book to find out more!

<https://smithyboysbookreviews.wordpress.com/the-bombs-that-brought-us-together-by-brian-conaghan/>

Eloise Mae Clarkson, age 14

This book is about two boys who become friends after they move next to each other. They are from Little Town and Old Country which are places that are

involved in a dispute. I really enjoyed some of the action that was involved in the book. The genres were : action, adventure, war and the tiniest smidgen of romance. **The characters were different and I loved the way they interacted with each other.** I enjoyed how language was also used in the story as well. **Overall I enjoyed this book and would rate it five out of five stars.**

Edel Waugh

The main character of the story is a 14 year old boy called Charlie. Charlie lives in little town which borders the notorious Old Country where the rules are very different then where he lives. When a new family move to Charlie's town he makes friends with the son Pavel, or Pav as his friends call him. Not everyone is as welcoming to Pav as Charlie is and it's not long before Pav is getting a hard time. **I really enjoyed this story about this dystopian world. The book also covered topics such as friendship, bullying and survival in hard times.** I would recommend this to fans of dystopian books or if you like books about friendship and bullying.

<http://edelwaugh.blogspot.ie/2016/04/the-bombs-that-brought-us-together-by.html?m=1>

Ella O'Gorman, age 11

'The Bombs That Brought Us Together 'is a powerful story about the friendship that develops between the two central characters, Charlie Law, a native of Little Town and Pavel Duda, a refugee.

Pavel (Pav as he is called) and his family have moved to Little Town from neighbouring Old Country. The friendship between the two boys is tested many times, especially when the discrimination against Pav starts. Everyone is very repressed in Little Town and there are many rules to obey. The people there resent Old Country refugees. Charlie's parents worry about the friendship and even Charlie questions it to himself but he proves to be a true friend. Pav's attempts to speak the Little Town dialect are quite funny. When Old Country invade Little Town and the bombs fall one night, the boys are caught up in a war zone and everything changes. All sorts of trouble happens when Charlie starts to break some of the rules, driven more and more by his mother's increasingly desperate need for medicine. This book really did make me think about what it would be like as a child living through a conflict and not being

able to do or say the things you want.

This was not my favourite book, maybe because I think it might be better suited to a teenage audience. It is however a compelling story that is very relevant today.

Josh, age 14

A very deep and well thought out read.

This book is a very interesting but also sad book. When a little town boy has a new neighbour from old country things could go bad. A brilliant and sad read loved it.

Sayna Ahluwalia, age 12

The story follows the life of Charlie Law who leads a simple life. But one day, he meets Pav Duda. And when the bombs come down on Little Town their lives change forever.

I have just finished reading an amazing book; 'The Bombs That Brought Us Together' by Brian Conaghan. This book is perfect for anyone looking for a book with an equal balance of comedy, action, adventure and a little bit of disaster. The story follows the life of Charlie Law, a young 14 year old living in Little Town leading a normal life. But one day, he meets Pav Duda. And when the bombs come down on Little Town their lives change forever. Brian's style of writing is so captivating- his words bringing the book to life and urging you to turn page after page.

I loved reading this book. The choice of language makes really makes it feel as if you are part of the book. You can almost feel the fear, taste the dread, and laugh uncontrollably because of the hilarity. With every page holding adventure, it is impossible to put this book down. One of my favourite parts was when Pav and Charlie went to meet the 'Big Man' for the very first time. It was tragic to find out Pav's story and the way he and his parents are treated in Little Town.

Dealing with the topic of friendship and war, this thrilling book takes you through a roller coaster of emotions- while one page makes you laugh uncontrollably the other fills you with dread of what the next chapters hold. I would recommend this book to anyone who enjoys historical fiction and is looking for a thrilling, exhilarating book that entertains and pleases.

Emily Kirby, age 11

'The Bombs That Brought Us Together' is a brilliant thrilling book I really enjoyed it and highly recommend it to others. It's not suitable for younger readers.

If you don't like war and planes don't let the title put you off because it is actually about two boys and how the bombs made them become better friends.

One summer a boy named Pavel (Pav) who is the same age as Charlie moves into the flat opposite. They find a shed and ask Norman to get them three chairs, a table and a lock. Norman knows the Big Man and he can get his hands on anything, but now they owe the Big Man and he gets Charlie to do something he never would've even dreamed of doing but if he doesn't do it his mum will be in mortal danger.

Isaac Phelan, age 12

A book which anyone would find impossible to put down.

Charlie Law, an inquisitive, good-natured boy living in Little Town. Little Town may seem like a sweet name, but the town is at war with Old Country, who are much more powerful. To make matters worse, Pavel Duada moves in next to Charlie and he is from Old Country. Their friendship attracts some good people, but also some shady people. Including the Big Man...

My favourite part of the book was when the Big Man was trying to force Charlie to shoot his sister from the Old Country. This is because it is action packed, tense and exciting.

I am also particularly interested in Brian's style of writing. He writes in a way which is common to children of today, and it makes it seem very realistic.

I would put this book towards people of 10+.

*To sum up, it was **one of my favourite books I've reviewed so far.***

Felicity Kerswell, age 13

This book is not my normal genre of book, it took me a while to get into the book but it got better and better!

Charlie is kind to Pavel when other are not, this creates a sweet friendship between the two. The emotions you feel when you are reading this book are one moment you are happy and the next you are worried about the characters. I

would recommend reading this book!

Callum Broomfield, age 11

*'The Bombs That Brought Us Together' is a book that really makes you think due to its in-depth story line and opening chapter about unintentional lies and a Chinese whispers effect. **The thing that really makes this book work is how the problems reflected in the book could easily be projected in to a real life worst case situation.** The characters are all fairly easy to relate to; however they're not all easy to like. I would recommend it to anybody who likes a post-apocalyptic genre.*

Jodi Coffman, age 14

*Charlie lives in little town and knows the rules: the curfew, the poverty, The Regime. But one day he meets Pav. He's moved to Little Town from Old Country. Should Charlie really be friends with him? But then Old Country drops bombs on Little Town and Little Town's rules change. How does Charlie know who to trust? Who to help and who to betray? **I really loved this book and it was a real page turner. It gripped me from the beginning and I recommend it to anyone looking for a slight twist on a war type book.***

Joseph Kinder, age 12

It is an amazing book. I read it very quickly, because the plot is so engaging that you just can't stop thinking about it, and you need to carry on.

This gripping and moving book features a character named Charlie Law, and what happens when he meets Pavel Duda. It starts with the bombs dropped on Little Town by their age-old rivals, Old Country. It is set in a dystopian world, which is quite like our own, with different countries and governments. It is an amazing book. I read it very quickly, because the plot is so engaging that you just can't stop thinking about it, and you need to carry on.