Lovereading4kids Reader reviews of Buckle and Squash and the Monstrous Moat-Dragon
By Sarah Courtauld

Below are the complete reviews, written by Lovereading4kids members.

Jessica Cobbin, age 7
I love this book because loads happens in it. My favourite character is Eliza and my best bit is when she's talking to Gertrude, who is a goat, and Gertrude is choking on a dandelion but Eliza doesn't even notice. This bit makes me laugh so much. There is a horrible bit in this book, and that is when Lavender has to kiss Lord Mordment, who is really disgusting because he has yellow teeth and big warts. This is one of the funniest books I have ever read. I think grown ups and children would find it funny. Anyone who likes fairy tales is in for a shock!

Sam Harper, age 10
A hilarious tale of princesses, dragons and goats, which made me laugh and laugh and laugh some more. I hope Lavender and Eliza have more adventures soon!

‘Buckle and Squash’ is the story of two very different sisters, Eliza and Lavender, who live in Old Tumbledown Farm. Eliza wants to be a beautiful princess and spends all of her time practising princessy things like swooning at princes, while Eliza is planning on becoming a swashbuckling heroine and dreams of cutting the heads off fire breathing dragons and bopping wild beasts on the nose. When Lavender is kidnapped by the villainous Mordmont, Eliza
and her trusty goat, Gertrude, must save her. But Mordmont’s castle is filled with weird servants and an ominous moat dragon, Violet, who has hundreds of bitey, snarley, ravenous babies. Will Eliza and the stubborn Gertrude be able to save Lavender? Will she be able to use the families ‘buckle and squash’ technique and how can Bonnet, the smallest giant in the world, help?

‘Buckle and Squash and the Monstrous Moat-Dragon’ was a hilarious adventure which made me laugh and laugh and laugh some more. Gertrude the goat was really funny and Lavender’s songs were brilliant. The ‘important messages for readers’ were fantastic and I loved the funny chapter titles, especially chapter fourteen! A very, very funny book. I hope Lavender and Eliza have more adventures soon.

Lauren Carver, age 8

Lavender wants to marry a prince, but Eliza wants to be a brave person. One day Lavender disappears and Eliza goes on a funny adventure to find her.

Lavender wants to marry a prince, but Eliza wants to be a brave person. One day Lavender is reading a book about princesses whilst Eliza is cleaning out the goat pen, the next day Eliza wakes up to find Lavender has disappeared, Eliza wants to go and find her, but her goat won’t go anywhere. Lavender wants to be rescued by a prince, so she finds a cave and ties herself to a rock with some meat nearby to attract a dragon so a prince can rescue her, she gets rescued by Bonnet a small giant who takes her to his prince because she tells him she is a princess. I liked Eliza’s adventures in the woods the best, the funny wizard and the bit with the witch made me laugh.

From Lauren’s mum:– I absolutely loved reading this book with my daughter. I love Sarah Courtauld’s style of writing and couldn’t wait to read what wacky things were on each page! Brilliantly written, had me hooked!!

James Wood, age 7

Brilliant book - very funny.

Everyone should read it. It really did make me laugh especially Lavender’s singing and the bit with the badgers!

I wasn’t sure how much I would like this book as the main characters were two
girls, but it was brilliant and very funny.

I giggled a lot and mummy laughed out loud while we were reading it, which she never does (and she reads a lot of books).

I especially liked Lavender's bad singing, Prince Rudolph the unusual and Granny's bedtime stories with the unhappy endings.

Evie Aconley, age 7

A really funny book, would love to read more in further adventures.

I really enjoyed this book, it was so funny, if I had a princess hat I would have laughed it off many times!!! The way it was written was great. I could imagine myself part of the adventures and I enjoyed the adventures that Lavender, Eliza and Gertrude had, they were really good at getting out of trouble. Would recommend this book to all my friends.

Ellen Cox, age 7

10/10. It is a very funny book. I loved it.

I loved this book. It was really funny.

It's about two sisters that had completely different dreams - one wanted to be a princess and the other wanted to fights ghosts and dragons.

My favourite parts of the story were when Mordmont was dropped into the lake by Violet, when Eliza's knees disappeared and when Lavender thinks Mordmont is a warthog.

I can't wait until this book is in the shops and libraries so I can tell my friends to read it.

Isabel Wood, age 7

I liked this book it was very funny. I liked the idea of girls fighting the dragon.

I loved the knobbly old lady knees from the turnip of destiny!

Really funny book! Loved it a lot!
Oliver Lonsdale, age 6

This book was very crazy but fun to read and made me want to find out how it was going to end.

This book is about two sisters Eliza and Lavendar who are both so different. One wants to be a princess and manages to get captured while the other is more tom boyish and wants to save the day. Through the story they meet some crazy characters who make the story funnier.

It’s a little crazy and not all that easy to follow at times but it did make me laugh a lot and was very easy to read. I hope they both have more books written about them as it made me smile.

Richie Upchurch, age 7 - http://coolkidscreations.net/

Two girls, one villain and a goat! I really like this book, it's really funny.

This book is about two girls: Lavender wants to be a beautiful princess that marries a handsome prince, but her sister Eliza doesn’t; she wants to be a knight who fights dragons and giants. It’s also about a moat dragon called Violet.

When Lavender goes off to find a prince and gets captured by the evil villain Mordmont, Eliza jumps onto Gertrude and tries to rescue Lavender, but neither of her plans work...

I really liked this book. My favourite characters are Mordmont the villain because he’s funny, Bonnet the really small giant because he’s brave, Frank the wizard who echoes all the time and Gertrude the goat.

Ella Meredith, age 7

I would give this book 4 stars!

I think it’s funny when Lavender sings. I think Mordmont is very mean but also funny. I think Eliza is a good sister, but I think a bit bossy too. I think Bonnet is very brave. I don't think Clive tells the truth. I would give this book 4 stars. ****

Brodie Greenslade, age 8

'Buckle and Squash and the Monstrous Moat Dragon' is a tale of two very
different sisters who have to work together when one of them is kidnapped by the Hairy Faced Villains. Very funny!

‘Buckle and Squash and the Monstrous Moat Dragon’ is a brilliant story in which two sisters called Eliza and Lavender want very different things. Eliza wants be a hero while Lavender wants to be a fairytale princess. When Lavender gets kidnapped it’s up to Eliza to save her, but there are many dangers to face on the way and the moat dragon is hungry...

I really liked ‘Buckle and Squash and the Monstrous Moat Dragon’ because it was very, very funny and the characters have great personalities. It was easy and fun to read and I read it all in one go. I think that most 6-9 year old children would enjoy this story.

Matilda Greenacre, age 8

An exciting adventure story!

My favourite character in this story was Gertrude the goat because he was very funny.

The picture were great and really added to the story. This book is great for girls and boys from age 5 up.

Isaac East, age 8

10 out of 10 for this outstanding funny book. Every one who turns the pages of this hilarious book will laugh their heads off.

My favorite part of this book is when they fake the black death because it made me laugh out loud. Aunt Maud is really really funny, however, my favourite character is Eliza.

Lavender's horrible singing comes in surprisingly handy and I hope there is another book about the adventures of Eliza and Lavender.

I would recommend this book to those who like fairy tales and adventure!

Evie Young, age 9

A funny story about dragons and princes and a goat! I loved this book and will tell all my friends about it.

At the beginning of the book, Lavender and Eliza are fed up cleaning up mud.
Lavender reads a book of fairy tales and starts daydreaming about becoming a princess.

One day her dreams sort of come true when she is captured by Lord Mordmont. This book is really funny, I especially like Gertrude the Goat, and all the funny messages to the reader that are scattered throughout the book. Lavender's singing is really funny too - she thinks she is really good but no one else does!

**Jenny Bridgeman, age 9**

_A laugh out loud riot of a story, it's fab for fans of Cressida Cowell or anyone who loves dragons!_

This is an awesome story featuring siblings who have to work together to defeat various enemies, dragons, evil doers, ominous trunips and the world's smallest giant!!!

**Melissa Broomfield, age 7**

This book made me laugh and the pictures are really good. It took me a long time to read it though!

**Melissa’s Mum**

_This is very much like an early Terry Prachett, very quick moving with great wit. This humour is somewhat lost on a seven year old mainly because she was concentrating so hard on just reading it. To get the full book (humour and all) it’s best read either by someone a little older or as a bedtime book as a adult, in which case it’s great fun!_