

## LoveReading4kids Reader reviews of Circus of the Unseen by Joanne Owen

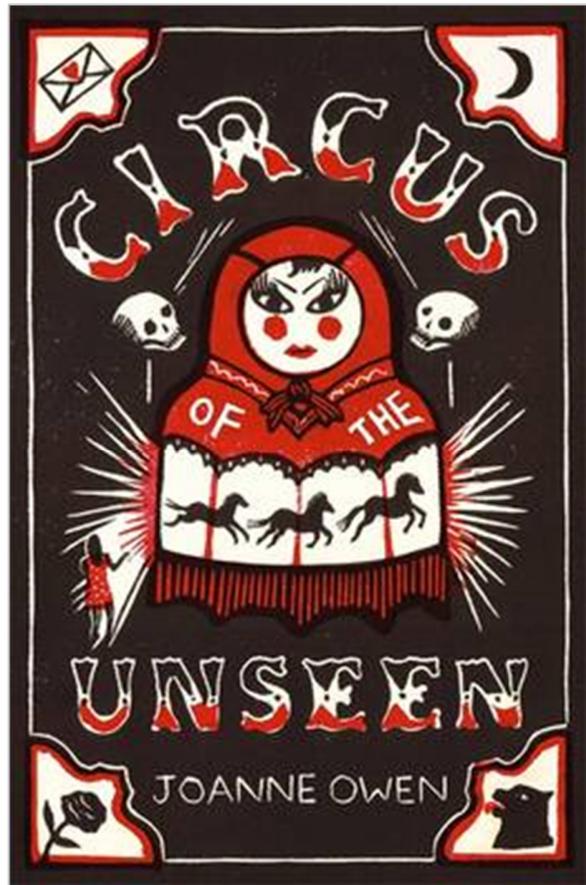
Below are the complete reviews, written by LoveReading4kids members.

**Lucy Minton, age 11**

***A mystifying book which I truly recommend.***

*'Circus of the Unseen' is a slightly macabre, other worldly novel. One night Rosie's Granny lets slip something about her past. Before Rosie can find out more her Granny dies in mysterious circumstances. But Rosie won't let that stop her. Despite knowing her Mum is keeping something from her, she keeps searching for answers - until she arrives in the circus that is. Told she must stay, she waits for an opportunity to go home. But when it comes, will she take it?*

*I loved this book. While reading it I was completely hooked. Joanne writes about mysterious things that I had wondered about myself. What happens when you die? What is heaven like? In this book, there is a unique answer to both these questions. The circus, with the menacing Madam Matushka, Fabulous Fabian and exciting Scarlet drew me in as well. They were described so well I felt I knew them. This is one of the best books I have reviewed and I would truly recommend it. I am hoping for a sequel.*



**Sophie Bridges, age 11**

***This book is very interesting and I like it because I like books with***

**adventures and this book is a big adventure.** One day I would like to go on the adventure that Rosie goes on because it is very exiting and children of my age would really like this book.

**Tamsin Hindley**

***A very modern and exciting fairy tale - full of interesting ideas and gripping characters.***

*When I read the blurb on this book, I wasn't sure how much I would enjoy it - it seemed quite an unusual idea and a dark plot. However, as I read it I was drawn into the story, wanting to know more and more about the characters and their lives. There was a very gothic atmosphere to the story, created very well by the author and some parts were quite unbelievable. It dealt with the very difficult subject of death quite sensitively but at times it was still quite difficult to read.*

*If you like a twist on the traditional fairy tale (or Grimms Tales) then this is for you!*

**Jennifer Bridgeman, age 9**

***'The Circus of the Unseen' is absolutely amazing. I really enjoyed it, I just couldn't let go of it .***

*The book put pictures in my mind, I just couldn't explain how amazing and mysterious it was. It was a sad but a truly fantastic story especially the end. The most suprising part is when Scarlet was on the wheel and span round really fast while Coco and Lola threw swords at her and went straight through her neck!*

**Destiny Maraj, age 13**

***An excellent novel. The characters were all very alive and the development of the story was ingenious. I loved it!***

*Amazingly composed, 'Circus of the Unseen' is a mysterious, gripping and nerve-wrecking novel. It took suspense to a whole new level! This story had several mysteries, building more and more momentum as it progressed. When Rosie's grandmother dies the last thing she expects is to end up in a circus, but Rosie is not like the others and they treat her differently. Mother Matushka blames her for strange things happening in their world. When Rosie is told the*

*only way to get home is to face a trial she is determined not to let the opportunity pass! When she starts to unravel the mystery of the Circus of the Unseen and the remarkable dwellers living there she is in for a shocking surprise. As this story unravels a new one about her grandmother's perturbed life begins, one that is jaw-dropping. Can Rosie untangle these mysteries and escape?*

*This was a mind-blowing novel and I would happily recommend it to all my friends. I'm very pleased to have been given the opportunity to review it and going to rate it a fabulous 10/10.*

**Eloise Mae Clarkson, age 12**

***This book has action, adventure, folk tales and mystery.*** A young girl loses her grandmother but she then finds out about a note. Her Grandmother's secret life starts to unfold after she has an accident and is transported to a different world. There is a dual narrative of both the past and the present. ***The plot was unguessable and the ending had a twist.*** I would rate this book four out of five stars.

**Sam Harper, age 10**

*Rosie loves her grandmother. She loves going to visit her and listening to the fairy tales and folk stories she tells. She is devastated when her grandmother dies. She feels like she was just starting to uncover some of the truths about her past and she blames herself. Then Rosie has a terrible and very strange accident. She falls into the hearth of her grandmother's fire and finds herself trapped in another world. It is a scary place, full of weird people performing death defying tricks and ferocious wild animals. It appears to be controlled by the terrifying old Mother Matushka, with her flailing hair and snapping teeth, and she isn't happy about Rosie's arrival in her world. Things as simple as the rising and setting of the sun are thrown off balance, animals start behaving strangely and Mother Matushka seems to be losing her power. Rosie is trapped there, unable to escape. She can't get back to her family in the normal world and Mother Matushka seems to need her help more and more. As Rosie begins to become accustomed to this strange world she realises she may have a purpose there after all. The details of her past start falling into place and links to her grandmother become clearer. Now, given the chance to return to the real world, what will Rosie decide?*

***A fantastical, weird and absorbing book. It pulls you into a strange world packed with mystery and excitement. A great alternative read!***

**Amelie Chatham, age 12**

***'Circus of the Unseen' is a mysterious, thrilling adventure that makes you want to die right there in your doorway.***

*'Circus of the Unseen' is about a young girl who is desperate to find out about her grandmothers death, but when she finds herself training in a circus for the dead, all she wants is to go home. Well, up until she finds out the truth of her crazy grandmas past.*

***This book totally gripped me and I could not put it down.***