

LoveReading4kids Reader reviews of Circus of Thieves and the Raffle of Doom By William Sutcliffe and illustrated by David Tazzyman

Below are the complete reviews, written by LoveReading4kids members.

Dylan Sweet, age 10

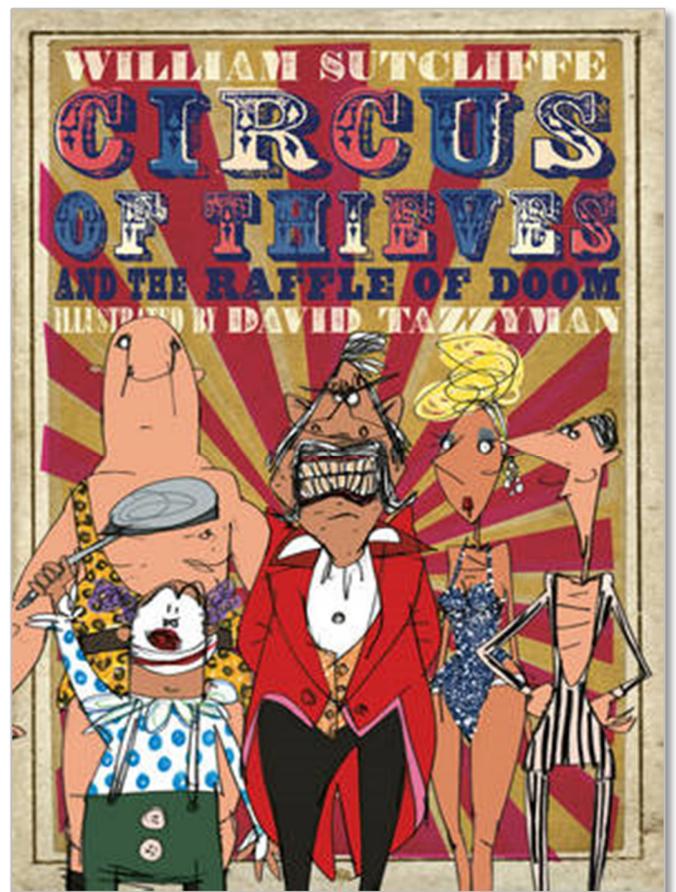
“As Billy back-flipped and cartwheeled offstage, Hannah looked to her right and was pleased to see that despite the cacophony of cheering, stamping, clapping, whistling and whooping, Granny was fast asleep. She smiling to herself- enjoying the show in her own special way- but was in no condition to notice her granddaughter slip past her, down the aisle, and out of the Big Top.”

This is a brilliant book that proves some circuses are not all what they seem. It is about a young girl called Hannah and a little boy called Billy.

Billy is the son of a circus master who had had been short of money. To pay the bills, he employed a nasty ringmaster named Armitage Shank.

Hannah is just a normal girl in an ordinary house, until Armitage Shanks Impossible Circus came into town and her life changed forever. But something was wrong. It was not long before she discovered that the circus was made of thieves.

My favourite scene in this amazing story is at the start, when Hannah meets Billy on his camel, Narcissus. I like this scene because there is a funny part when Narcissus spits on her wellies. My favourite character is Jesse, the human cannonball, as he is scared of almost everything and he ended up with having



this job!

I like this book because the characters are funny with all sorts of personalities, and the plot is very imaginative. The age range is 8+ for all genders and I will rate it a five star.

Eloise Mae Clarkson, age 11

I quite liked this book I would probably give it three out of five stars. I liked how it was funny but serious at the same time. I really liked all the characters as well. The plot was good too. I would probably have enjoyed it a bit more if it was longer and a little bit more challenging for me. I think it would be most suitable for those aged 8 to 9.

Katie Johnson, age 10

I found this book very funny and liked the notes and comments on several words and phrases - some were absolutely hilarious!

Overall I would highly recommend it. I liked the constant questions about Fizzer and cannot wait for book two.

Alina Wraith, age 9

I love everything about this book. I screamed in frustration when this book ended because I was so desperate to know what happens next. I definitely want to read the next book so I hope William Sutcliffe hurries up and writes it!

The characters are fantastic and the book is very original. My favourite character is Mr. Shank the scary thief who runs the circus where the story is set. The plot is exciting as you can't guess what is going to happen next.

Sophie Bridges, age 11

I think 'Circus of Thieves' by William Sutcliffe was good because it was a circus with animals and it was very entertaining.

I think Circus of thieves by William Sutcliffe was good and very easy to understand. My favourite bit about the book was the start where two animals fall in love.

Ewan young, age 11

Hannah is a girl whose life is turned upside-down by the arrival of the circus. A great funny book!

This book is about a girl named Hannah who sees the circus parading into town and meets a boy named Billy who works in the circus.

My favourite part was when Billy always shuddered at the idea of becoming a civilian. Fizzer the dog is my favourite character with his pee-mails.

I like the way the author adds in funny bits and explanations with the little symbols scattered through the book.

Hannah and her new friend need to work together to defeat the evil ringmaster, Armitage Shank. Lots of fun and adventure follows but will they win?

Jemma Rubens, age 10

*Although this book would be engaging for younger children, I feel that the age recommendation was too high; the storyline is quite simple. **I did expect it to be a little more grown up in terms of vocabulary and plot**, as it is rated approximately a 9+.*

I like how it is laid out (for example the speech bubbles) **and the interesting different text formats**. This has led me to believe that it is a good book overall and I hope other people enjoy it.

Alexander Bisland, age 8

This book is about a girl called Hannah who goes out and notices that something is up! She goes to investigate with a dog and finds that 'Shanks Impossible Circus' has come to town. She makes friends with a circus boy called Billy and they have to stop Shank, Billy's stepfather, from causing chaos in the town. Billy's mum had died and his dad got the sack, so Shank was his only family.

The circus is full of thieves and they run a raffle where they collect the addresses of the people who are coming to the circus to steal from them. Will Billy and Hannah stop Shank and his Circus of thieves??? You'll have to read it to find out!

I liked the book because I always wanted to read on and it had lots of footnotes that I wanted to read. The footnotes had extra information

about the story and they explained the words used in the book.

I recommend this book to 8+ readers who like adventure books which are informative and entertaining.

I give this adventurous book 10/10.

Liam Wilson, age 9

This book is the most outrageously, audaciously, courageously, but not mendaciously, funny book ever. *I really enjoyed reading this book, it was really funny. I liked the long words such as: outrageously, audaciously, courageously, mendacious. I liked that there are little pictures at the end of a sentence and at the bottom of the page there is a footnote. Armitage Shank is the most mendacious character you could find in a book. Mainly I liked the word mendacious. I loved this book so much I would give it a 6 stars out of 5 stars.*

Adi Mehta, age 8

What could be worse than having nothing to do?

*Well Hannah experiences this until Shanks Impossible Circus comes to town! She meets a camel boy called Billy, together they realize the circus is not what it is supposed to be or what it seems to be! **This exciting adventure story leads you to false trails and you get glued to this fantastic adventure.***

Well done Mr Sutcliffe I loved this book.

Jenny Bridgeman, age 9

How can a raffle be doomed? Read on and discover a hilarious adventure, sinister characters, plot twists and derring do!

The illustrations that accompany this book are just perfect! The cover alone has us all intrigued, we loved the story, the dialogue was very funny but there are dark undertones that maybe escaped the younger hangers on at book at bedtime in the Bridgeman house but Jenny(9)found them spot on.