

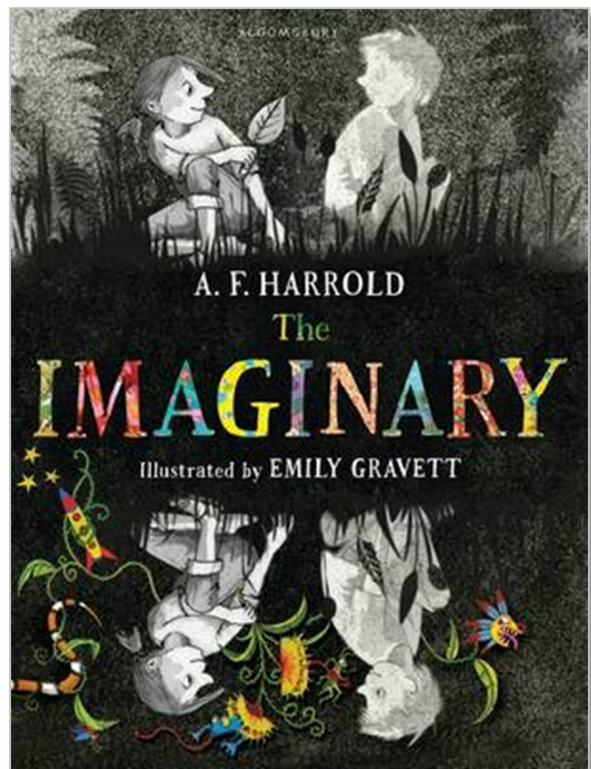
LoveReading4kids Reader reviews of The Imaginary by A.F.Harrold Illustrated by Emily Gravett

Below are the complete reviews, written by LoveReading4kids members.

Sam Harper, age 10

I love the idea of a world full of imaginaries who can only be seen by people with big imaginations. A very funny, quirky and exciting story with fantastic illustrations and a brilliant climax.

When Amanda Primrose Shuffleup discovers a boy inside her wardrobe she thinks he might be a burglar. She soon realises, however, that Rudger is an imaginary boy and only she can see him. The pair use Amanda's imagination to have a great time together, pretending to explore outer space and the South American jungles. But the imaginary world isn't all good fun, especially when the sinister Mr Bunting, who is rumoured to hunt and eat imaginaries, arrives at Amanda's door. Amanda and Rudger need to run for their lives but there's an accident, Amanda forgets Rudger and when imaginaries are forgotten they start to fade into nothingness. Will Rudger be able to escape from Mr Bunting and save himself from fading? He needs Amanda to remember him. Maybe the other imaginaries he meets can help him. There's Snowflake the giant pink dinosaur, Cruncher-of-Bones, an enlarged teddy bear and Emily, a lovely girl who tries to rescue him. If they help each other they might be strong enough to survive but will Rudger ever be reunited with Amanda?



'The Imaginary' is a very funny and exciting story with fantastic illustrations and a brilliant climax. It's very different and I loved the whole idea of a world full of imaginaries who can only be seen by people with big imaginations. Rudger and Amanda made a perfect pair and I really wanted to find out what was going to happen to them. An amazingly quirky adventure.

Lily Benner, age 10

Cool, creepy, exciting and very different. I couldn't stop reading it.

Amanda is a spirited and imaginative little girl and Rudger is her imaginary friend. They share exciting adventures until the imaginary friend-eating Mr Bunting arrives to spoil their fun.

After Amanda has an accident Rudger goes through many twists and turns in the plot to get her back.

This book is engrossing, funny, sad and has an unexpected ending.

The writing and illustrations are fantastic.

Everyone with an imagination should read this book.

Everyone without an imagination should also read this book- it may give them one!

Lucas, age 9

I just loved this book!

The part I enjoyed most was when the imaginary friend eating monster ate his own imaginary friend and turned into a wrinkled old man!

Traviss Chaytors, age 11

An unusual scary story but worth the read.

This was a very different and unusual book to others that I have read but that was what made it more interesting. Amanda is a cool character for a girl and her imaginary friend Rudger is really cool. The story was at times a bit scary and dark but Amanda was very funny. 'The Imaginary' is more for the younger reader if they can cope with scary stories but I think it would have been even better with some more pictures in it as they were brilliant.

William Longlands, age 10

8/10 - a good book but not for me.

A well written book but not as much action and excitement as I would have liked. It started and finished well but the middle was not as interesting. I think this book's age range was possibly wrong and that I was a bit too young for the book.

Amelie Chatham, age 11

If you have a vivid imagination this book is brilliant for you!

'The Imaginary' is a perfect sum up of an imaginary person. It tells the story of Rudger, Amanda Shuffleup's imaginary friend. They spend every second of every minute of the day together until Amanda gets hit by a car and is hospitalised. The evil Mr Bunting and his treacherous imaginary go hunting for Rudger and his fellow fading friends.

The illustrations in this book are amazing and transport you into the story.

My favourite part is when Rudger thought that Amanda's mum had named the fridge after her old imaginary dog.

Lucy Minton, age 10

I would give this book full marks for a truly enjoyable read.

'The Imaginary' is a fast paced adventure about a girl called Amanda and her friend Rudger. Sounds perfectly ordinary doesn't it? But there's something else - only Amanda can see Rudger. Which can be problematic.

I love the idea of this book - that there are imaginary people who can only be seen by their friend. I also like the villain Mr Bunting. He seems very real and while I was reading this book I could picture him and his sidekick clearly. This book was very well written. It kept me on the edge of my seat and I was eager to reach the end. I lost myself in the world of Rudger and I was sad when I reached the end of the book. I would give this book full marks because it was a truly enjoyable read.

Jasmine Harris-Hart, age 12 – www.jasminesblogonbooks.blogspot.co.uk

Wow, what a great book! A brilliant story unlike anything I have

read before. I 'imagine' everyone(aged 9+) will enjoy this amazing adventure.

It is wonderfully illustrated giving the characters even more depth.

Chillingly scary at times but also funny, especially when Rudger is imagined into a girl. I didn't know what would happen next and this kept me reading, I was stuck to it like gum on hair!

Rudger was a boy brought to life by Amanda's vivid imagination. Together they play having lots of imaginary adventures, until one day they meet Mr Bunting and a real adventure begins!

Mr Bunting survives by eating imaginaries. He chases Rudger, who is with Amanda in a car park and she gets knocked down by a car. They become separated when she is taken to hospital and without her Rudger begins to fade (he needs her to imagine him in order to exist).

The story is about Rudger trying to get back to Amanda before he fades completely or Mr. Bunting gets him.

If this book was a film I would be on the edge of my seat as it is so new and exciting. "Crack your imagination out for this one.....you are going to need it!"

I rate it 5/5

Luke Bauer, age 11

Who knows who you can find in the back of a wardrobe!

This book was well presented with amazing illustrations which made the book come alive. *Amanda's character was adventurous and the authors writing made it easy to imagine what it was like to have an imaginary friend. The story was fast moving and was a fairly easy read which I couldn't put down - I read this book in a day!*

I think this book would be good for 8-10 year olds - it's not too long and not as scary as the front cover makes you think. I think the illustration shown on the back of the book makes it look less scary.

I rate it 5 stars

Peace, age 9 – Baring Primary School

I really enjoyed the fact that imaginary friends exist in Amanda's world, but her

imaginary friend fades away.

I enjoyed this book so much that I passed it on to my big sister, aged 11, who also loved it.