

LoveReading4kids Reader reviews of The River Singers by Tom Moorhouse

Below are the complete reviews, written by LoveReading4kids members.

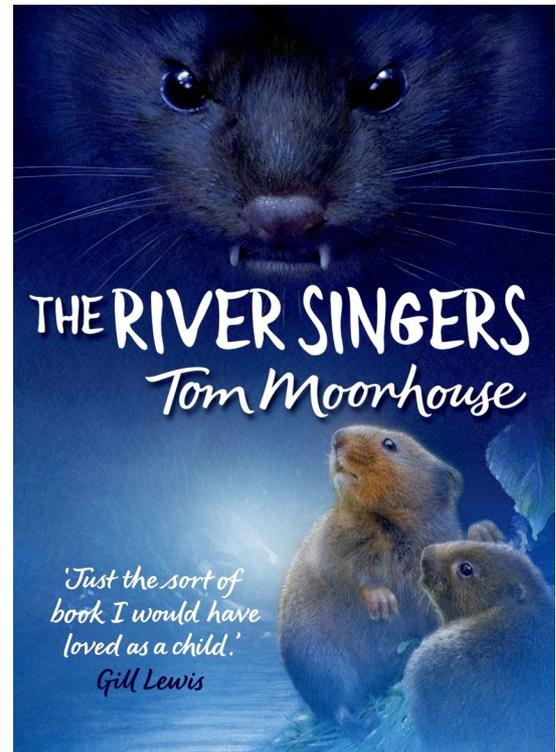
Charlie Upchurch, age 9

The River Singers is a book about four young water voles, Sylvan, Aven, Fern and Orris, and their mother, all followers of the Great River, Sinethis. They are known as river singers, children of Sinethis. They live as a family in their mother's territory. All is well until something strange is released into the woods. Something ferocious, something long and sly, something far more dangerous than any stoat or weasel. The thing kills vast numbers of voles and even their mother. Sylvan, the oldest of the litter, takes control in their quest to find a safe land beyond the river, that they heard was already a home to other River Singers. On the way they encounter a fox, an otter and lots of danger, and also an amazing new friend, a creepy rat called Fodur.

This is a wonderful adventure that forces you to keep reading. It reminded me of Watership Down because it's a poetic story about a family of animals in danger who are looking for safety. I enjoyed it because it was exciting. It was interesting to know all the predators that would hunt a water vole.

Sam Harper, age 9

If you are looking for an exciting animal adventure story then choose The River Singers. It is the tale of four young water voles whose mother is killed by a mink. Their neighbour tries to claim the orphans territory as her own but she is also killed. It isn't safe to stay there so the youngsters must travel to find a new home. They bump into Fodur, a friendly rat who has lost his family, and journey on together. They explore a stream joining the Great River and meet Mistress Marjoram who is so shocked at the sight of Fodur



that she faints! Her daughter Camilla helps the travellers by giving them directions to the Marsh, a safer, mink-less area. Once there, they find an unoccupied territory in which they can settle and make a new home with Fodur.

This heartwarming tale has danger and excitement. It is both funny and sad and the characters are so believable that I felt like I was living the adventure with them. A brilliant read which I would highly recommend.

Ewan Young, age 10

This story is brilliant, seeing the river through the eyes of a water vole is really interesting.

Who'd have thought a peaceful river could be the scene of so much danger and adventure? 'The River Singers' is the story of a family of water voles whose lives are changed forever when a mysterious creature enters their burrow and their mother disappears. The young water voles are now on their own and in danger; luckily they meet a rat who helps them to safety. This story is really exciting, I couldn't put it down. It is really interesting to look at the river from a water voles point of view.

James smart, age 13

Loved the book, I found it gripping and I advise it to anyone.

The River Singers is an awesome book with a gripping and dangerous story line the whole way through. Not only has it broken the feeling that animal stories are for young children. I enjoyed reading this book because it had an amazing storyline. In the book Sylvan and his brother and sisters are orphaned and they leave to find a new home downstream of the river from the new threat of mink. They realise that they are not only at threat from the mink but they are passing through rat territory. Thankfully they find a friendly rat to help them pass through. Though that is currently helpful he causes trouble when they dig there new burrow as he upsets the new neighbours. I hope I come across more of his books.

Alex Boulton, age 11

This book is wonderful. It is full of happiness, sadness, excitement and action-packed adventure. All the way through you will be crying and laughing with joy and tears of emotion.

"The dawn was grey and the waters quiet. Sylvan was the first awake, lying with his brother and sister. He yawned. He opened his eyes. He grinned. Today was the day, at last..."

Read about four voles on the most adventurous journey of their lives. Running away, they encounter a beast but what is it? All Sylvan knows is that it looks like a mutated vole and his name is Fodur. What will Fodur do?

This book is wonderful. It is full of happiness, sadness, excitement and action-packed adventure. All the way through you will be crying and laughing with joy and tears of emotion.

If you like action at every corner, then this dramatic book is for you!