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Giants Beware! (The Chronicles Of Claudette)



Synopsis

Make way for Claudette the giant slayer in this delightful, fantastical adventure! Claudette's fondest wish is to slay a giant. But her village is so safe and quiet! What's a future giant slayer to do? With her best friend Marie (an aspiring princess), and her brother Gaston (a pastry-chef-to-be), Claudette embarks on a super-secret quest to find a giant-without parental permission. Can they find and defeat the giant before their parents find them and drag them back home? *Giants Beware!* offers up a wondrous, self-contained world in the tradition of the very best of Pixar. Claudette and her friends will have you laughing out loud from page one.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 330L (What's this?)

Series: The Chronicles of Claudette

Paperback: 208 pages

Publisher: First Second; Original edition (April 10, 2012)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 7.6 x 11.8 x 257 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 80 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #51,700 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #9 in Books > Children's Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Fantasy #1545 in Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy & Magic #2074 in Books > Children's Books > Action & Adventure

Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

Customer Reviews

Gr 2-6-Rambunctious Claudette, the daughter of the town blacksmith, sets off to kill the local giant with her best friend and brother in tow. Action and friendship, drawn in a clear, cheerful style, make this graphic novel a great choice for "Bone" (Scholastic) fans. (c) Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

"Comedy and fairy tale sensibilities balance perfectly in this exciting debut by writer Aguirre and illustrator Rosado." •Publishers Weekly"This is one book that readers are sure to enjoy again and

again."•Children's Literature"The story, with its riffs on fairy tales and quest narratives, offers just the right balance of familiarity and originality, with plenty of humorous asides."•The New York Times

This is a terrific graphic novel for kids. I read it to my five-year-old and she really enjoyed the story and the pictures; this was her first introduction to the genre and it was interesting to see how she came to understand how the text and images fit together -- as an adult you forget that it's really different than reading simple prose! I really enjoyed that the characters were quirky and multidimensional and the story wasn't too violent (as many graphic novels are wont to be). One of the takeaways from the story is that you just can't rely on stereotypes to tell you who someone truly is: a huge giant can be friendly, a wannabe princess can be smart, a tough cookie can be vulnerable. This in and of itself is not a unique message among children's literature, but what was refreshing about *Giants Beware* is that you're not beaten over the head with it -- the characters are allowed to develop more naturally, and the overall plot is very strong and stands on its own. I look forward to reading more of *The Chronicles of Claudette*!

This is a great book. The drawing and colors are pretty spectacular. Master storyboard and comic artist Rafael Rosado brings a constant energy and buzz to the pages as the characters go from one action packed scene to another in really well composed frames and pages that almost look animated. The character design is also really nice with Claudette and the gang all seeming like very different and unique personalities each with their own strengths and weaknesses that come together nicely as a team. In terms of the writing the pacing of the book is very fast and fun. The characters overcome obstacles and solve problems through non-violent means and learn about thinking beyond stereotypes and about finding their inner talents and pursuing their dreams. The story is reminiscent of Jeff Smith's *Bone* in that it creates a very interesting fantasy world for the characters to inhabit and it appears to be setting up a cool long term narrative that will go beyond the first book. I highly recommend this book.

An awesome all-ages romp! (Yeah, I said ROMP.) Check it out if you have a 7-12yo in the house who might like a rousing adventure with awesome comic timing; eye-popping, expressive art; and gorgeous, lively full-color spreads. Every character, even the walk-ons, has a very distinct look, informed by their personalities. I loved that Claudette, Marie, and Gaston, who so easily could have been reduced to tropes in less thoughtful hands (the feisty warrior, the princess, the scaredy-cat)

each have their own dreams, and strengths, and weaknesses, that the creators clearly respect and admire. In each trial they face along their quest, the children's various strengths come into play -- Marie's diplomacy, Gaston's unexpected bravery, and Claudette's ability to do the hardest thing of all: admit she was wrong and ask her friends for help. In some graphic novels the action can be hard to track, but here, even the pages that are practically dialogue-free are easy to follow. Highly recommend this engaging introduction to Claudette's world, and can't wait for the sequel!

Graphic novels are by far the most popular genre of books in my school library. They come and go on a daily basis, so I'm always on the lookout for new ones to add. While there are many available graphic novels, many of them I don't find particularly enjoyable, the kids might, but I don't. However, I really enjoyed this one. Not only are the characters delightful with more depth than one might expect in a graphic novel, but the plot has some delicious twists and turns. I loved the twist at the end which I did not predict. I knew something would happen that would encourage Claudette to think more before she rushes into things, but the ending was a nice surprise. I also liked how her friend and brother were given a chance to shine also. I appreciated Claudette's courage in standing up to the local bullies, even if her actions were rather rash at times. A lot of times secondary characters fade so much into the background that you hardly notice them. That is not the case here. The illustrations are gorgeous and very appealing, the writing crisp and easy to follow. This is one graphic novel that I can recommend very highly indeed.

Giants Beware was the best graphic novel i ever read. I was at first expecting good things out of this book when I first got it, but I was amazed of how good it was. It has everything a good book needs. Humor, action, suspense, you name it. The book is very good for a 4th grader, but that isn't the limit. I reread it many times, always slightly older, and it got more funny to me every time. The authors are great, too. They have a lot of experince with drawing and writing. I would reccomend this book for anyone who wants to hear about a funny, epic tale. The characters have good structure, and it is easy to see what is going on. I dont want to spoil the book for those who did not read it, so i'm not going to break into a summery. I'm just going to say it has everything a graphic novel needs, and beyond. If I could give it 6 stars, I definately would.

I've been trying to grow my graphic novel/comic collection in my classroom and Giants Beware was one of my first forays into this territory. My fourth grade students adore this book. What's more, it has a quiz on Scholastic's Reading Counts program. I have to repeatedly tell one of my boys to put

this back on my shelf when independent reading time is over. Having read the book myself, this is a fun, engaging adventure story with a gentle sense of humor and a great cast of characters. Highly, highly recommended.

My 6 year old son is a BIG FAN of Claudette! He loves the humor of the younger brother and loves the format of the graphic novel. He was an early reader so it's been tough to find books for him that match his ability and his comprehension level. This story is charming and exciting and really fits the bill for him. He's read it multiple times and the sequel is on his "please, mom, gotta have it" list. I thought he might not be as engaged by a girl lead, but nope -- the charm of this book keeps him coming back. More Claudette, please!!!

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