

Knights and Bikes by Gabrielle Kent

Published by Knights Of

'The wind howled around the cabin like a rabid beast as the rain crashed against the windows. The occupants huddled together in terror as a shadowy figure loomed at the window, moonlight glinting off the blade in its gnarled hand...'

From the opening paragraph, this story keeps you entertained throughout. A brilliantly funny tale of friendship - an adventure packed with magic, laughs and a feel-good ending that sets up the reader perfectly for the next book in the series. The book is based on a video-game and is written like the story of a game as you follow the two protagonists (lead characters) on a quest where they have to overcome a lot of obstacles along the way.

The two girls are perfectly described and their antics are laugh-out-loud funny in several parts. I loved the way that both of them exaggerate and embellish the truth - Nessa's claim to be just Nessa, 'like Prince' and a spy to boot brought a big grin to my face.

The book was illustrated throughout in a cartoon/comic book style - similar to the Phillip Reeve and Sarah McIntyre books. It's quite unusual for a book to have two illustrators but throughout this read, the wonderfully cartoonish illustrations by Rex Crowle and Luke Newell bring the text to life with their clean lines and bold shading, adding enormously to the reader's pleasure. And a great deal of pleasure is to be got by reading this.

Read it:

- if you like action/adventure stories
- if you like video games
- if you like stories about friendships
- if you like stories with female protagonists

If you like this, read:

- The Rebel Bicycle Club by Gabrielle Kent (the next book in the series)
- The Alfie Bloom series by Gabrielle Kent
- The Creakers by Tom Fletcher
- The Boy Who Flew by Fleur Hitchcock

