



The New Kid at School #1 (Dragon Slayers' Academy)

By Kate McMullan

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 2-4AA fantasy adventure for beginning chapter-book readers. Wiglaf, the would-be hero, lives with his large, brutish family in abject poverty. Their hovel smells worse than their pigsty. Though Wiglaf is the smallest member of the family, he is made to do all the work, and is constantly picked on by the others because he is reluctant to kill any living thing. A traveling minstrel tells Wiglaf's fortune; it shows that he can improve his lot by performing a gallant act. The boy decides to sign up at the local Dragon Slayers' Academy. It guarantees to make him a hero. However, he finds life at the run-down school as difficult as it is at home, and he protests when he is sent out to slay the local dragon on his first day. When his magic sword doesn't work, he switches to another strategy. He has learned that the dragon can't stand bad jokes so he tries a few and, as predicted, the dragon expires at his feet. Wiglaf is a hero without spilling a single drop of blood. The fast-paced, snappy text is filled with jokes and insults; the accompanying black-and-white illustrations are dark and cartoonlike. The tone and style suggest Saturday-morning animated films and will appeal to the same audience. For humorous adventure fantasy that is better crafted and more nourishing, try Jon Scieszka's *Knights of the Kitchen Table* (Viking, 1991) and other works in the "Time Warp Trio" series. A Virginia Golodetz, *Children's Literature New England*, Burlington, VT
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From Kirkus Reviews

In this first of the Dragon Slayers' Academy series, Wiglaf, the put-upon sensitive son in a family of louts, heads off to school along with his faithful pet pig, Daisy. On the way, he meets a wizard who gives him a magic sword, although he has forgotten the magic words to make it work, and gives Daisy the power of speech (in pig latin). Once at the Academy, Wiglaf discovers that it's not all it's advertised to be, and his first chance to slay a dragon comes all too soon. This lightweight, amusing adventure rattles right along, without pretensions and with, given the series title, a resolution that cleverly avoids violence--Wiglaf slays the dragon with bad jokes. An entertaining confection. (b&w illustrations, not seen) (Fiction. 7-10) -- *Copyright ©1997, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

Review

"Wizards, dragons, a secret princess, a pig who speaks Pig Latin, and a hero who is served boiled eel on a bun. What more could you possibly want in a book." -**Jon Szieszka**

"Here's a young hero who could well be Harry Potter's little brother." -**Mary Pope Osborne**

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jimmy Robertson:

Nowadays reading books be a little more than want or need but also get a life style. This reading behavior give you lot of advantages. The benefits you got of course the knowledge the actual information inside the book this improve your knowledge and information. The information you get based on what kind of e-book you read, if you want attract knowledge just go with knowledge books but if you want truly feel happy read one having theme for entertaining for example comic or novel. The actual The New Kid at School #1

(Dragon Slayers' Academy) is kind of publication which is giving the reader unpredictable experience.

Denise Church:

Do you have something that you prefer such as book? The guide lovers usually prefer to select book like comic, small story and the biggest some may be novel. Now, why not striving The New Kid at School #1 (Dragon Slayers' Academy) that give your enjoyment preference will be satisfied by means of reading this book. Reading behavior all over the world can be said as the opportunity for people to know world better then how they react in the direction of the world. It can't be stated constantly that reading routine only for the geeky particular person but for all of you who wants to possibly be success person. So , for all you who want to start studying as your good habit, you can pick The New Kid at School #1 (Dragon Slayers' Academy) become your own personal starter.

James Melendez:

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Patricia Rivera:

Many people spending their time period by playing outside having friends, fun activity using family or just watching TV the entire day. You can have new activity to spend your whole day by looking at a book. Ugh, think reading a book can really hard because you have to use the book everywhere? It alright you can have the e-book, bringing everywhere you want in your Smartphone. Like The New Kid at School #1 (Dragon Slayers' Academy) which is having the e-book version. So , why not try out this book? Let's view.

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