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Goodly and Grave In a Bad Case of Kidnap

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~~Editor's Choice:~~

off

Media type:

Book

BfK Rating:

4

Children are going missing all over the city. Who is behind it? Arriving at Grave Hall as the new Boot Girl, Lucy Goodly notices strange things afoot ? moving statues, magical books ? and clearly Lord Grave has a secret. Might this be the link? It is up to Lucy to uncover the truth.

Debut author, Justine Winsor, has written a lively, enjoyable and very accessible adventure. There is plenty of humour (anchovy omelettes) and satisfying element of magic, a neat subversion of expectations ? and a black panther. If the villains have more than a whiff of the pantomime, this just adds to the enjoyment. Lucy is a resourceful heroine, Lord Grave suitably enigmatic. To add to the pleasure of reading, Becka Moor has illustrated the text throughout. Her images provide welcome additions to what is quite a substantial read, not just as decoration but really enhancing the fun. This is set to be the first of a series and I suspect young Lucy will quickly gather a following. Recommended for KS2 readers who are both confident and hungry for books that provide a satisfying reading experience that is completely appropriate to their age.

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