



The Jolley-Rogers and the Ghostly Galleon

Jonny Duddle

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Ahoy, me hearties! Matilda and the Pirates Next Door return in a series of illustrated stories for young readers.

Every full moon, a mysterious ship is seen off the coast of Dull-on-Sea. Then, the next day, gold and jewelry are missing from homes, shops, and museums all over town. Matilda needs the Jolley-Rogers' help to investigate. Can Matilda and Jim Lad retrieve the stolen booty from the mysterious ship before the moon fades? Or will they end up stuck on board with a crew of ghostly pirates forever?

The Jolley-Rogers and the Ghostly Galleon Details

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Author : Jonny Duddle

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From Reader Review The Jolley-Rogers and the Ghostly Galleon for online ebook

Shaunterria says

The Jolly-Rogers and the Ghostly Galleons is the first in a series of early chapter books that brings pirates into the modern world. In pursuit of the magical Key of Souls, Twirlybeard and his crew of ghouls will stop at nothing to obtain the artifact - possessing it will keep them immortal. The Jolly-Rogers, Matilda, Jim Lad and their families, are tasked with recovering the treasure the pirates stole from the town. This is an engaging yarn, full of fun illustrations and a plot that keeps things moving. This is a recommended title for library's looking to expand their early chapter book collection.

Dom Conlon says

A treasure trove of hearty adventures! Jonny Duddle extends his oeuvre to a new age-group and gives them even more fun of the high seas. It's Pirates of the Carribean for children and we loved it.

Kari (BookandCoffeeLover) says

I received an ARC of this book in exchange for an honest review.
A delightful and entertaining story with wily pirates and comic adventure! Smart dialogue and charming illustrations make this a definite page turner. Highly recommended.

Sally Whiteside says

light hearted fun book I read to a client when I was at work. I enjoyed this book.

Adele Broadbent says

When I was a librarian I discovered the amazing talent of Jonny Duddle on the picture book shelves. It's great to have his illustrations in books for older children too!

The museum in the small town of Dull-on-Sea has been burgled and all its treasures are gone! An eye witness swears he saw pirates, but that can't be right - can it?

Tilly loves pirates and her best friend Jim Lad just happens to be one. She writes him a letter and he replies quickly by parrot. While the townsfolk of Dull-on-Sea are in a complete panic, Jim and his family are on their way in their pirate ship, The Blackhole.

Tilly explains the problem to Jim and his Grandpa when they arrive, and they soon have a Piratey Plan to

outwit the treasure thieves, but they aren't your normal run of the mill pirates! With their very lives at stake, Tilly, Jim and Grandpa need to get the town treasures back and fix these problem pirates once and for all.

Full of fantastic black and white illustrations by this talented author/illustrator, this is a tale full of blistering barnacles, sword fights, a full moon, a strange key and the evil Captain Twirlybeard! Great story. Would make a fun read aloud.

Lindsay says

Lots of fun and adventure, great illustrations.

Pop Bop says

Brilliant Chapter Book Follow-up

Johnny Duddle started the Jim and Matilda series with the very successful picture books "The Pirate Cruncher" and "The Pirates Next Door". These funny, brightly colored, amusingly illustrated and ripping books introduced Jim the pirate lad and his friend Matilda, as well as Jim's entire pirate family.

In a great creative stroke, Duddle has moved on to write and illustrate a series of graphic chapter books that follow upon the picture books and feature the same characters and settings. As a consequence a kid can start with the picture books. If he or she likes them then this chapter book and its sequels just naturally draw them along to the next reading level. So, this ends up as a series a little reader can grow with. What a nice plan.

And these are worth getting into. The story here is that ghost pirates are raiding pirate museums, gathering pirate treasure. They land at Dull-on-Sea and clean out the local Museum. Matilda sends a message in a bottle to Jim and his family, and they arrive to help stop the ghost pirates. SPOILER. It turns out that there is something important in Dull-on-Sea that could send the ghost pirates away for good and so the race is on between the ghosts and Matilda/Jim to see who can get the whatchamacallit first.

This book has great appeal. There are lots of funny bits, frantic action, clever wordplay, deadpan humor, and some sly bits for adults. Matilda and Jim are cheerful and resourceful can-do heroes. Added appeal arises from the nice match between the graphic aspect and the printed words. This is not a "comic" or a pure graphic novel, but more along the lines of a very heavily illustrated book. The drawings are black and white, but heavily detailed and exaggerated in an amusing fashion. They also clarify what's been written and so help a younger reader avoid confusion and follow the story, which can be a bit antic and breathless.

The upshot is that this book is entertaining, good-natured, funny and pretty exciting. While it stands alone just fine it's also a great extension of Duddle's pirate series for the picture book crowd, which just strikes me as a swell idea. A very nice and satisfying find.

Cindy Vallar says

Late one night pirates ransack the museum in Dull-on-Sea without leaving a single fingerprint behind. Chief Inspector Klewless admits he and his men have no clues as to the pirates' identities, but this is the second such theft and both occur under a full moon. Fearing they'll be the next victims, the townspeople of Dull-on-Sea immediately lock up their valuables.

Matilda, better known as Tilly, contacts her best friend, Jim Lad Jolley-Roger, who just might know who the thieves are since he and his family are pirates too. While waiting for them to arrive, she helps an old lady with a cupboard full of keys. One particular key catches Tilly's attention because it's rusty and big and has a skeleton's head at one end.

Once the Jolley-Rogers' pirate galleon Blackhole arrives, Jim Lad invites Tilly aboard to hear the legend of Cap'n Twirlybeard. This fierce captain and his pirates had a locked chest of treasure, but the key was lost after the pirates were killed and the navy ship carrying it sank off Dull-on-Sea. Now, when the full moon shines, the pirates search for the key to unlock their chest. Only then will their souls be saved.

Tilly thinks she knows where to find the key, and once she and Jim Lad acquire it, Grandpa Rogers devises a daring plan to recover the stolen artifacts and put an end to Twirlybeard's nightly thefts. But it's never a good idea to trust pirates to do the right thing, and Cap'n Twirlybeard has no intention of giving up his moonlight marauding. Before long Tilly and Jim Lad find themselves in mortal danger, and the only way for the good guys to win is to think outside the box.

This chapter book is the first tale in a new series for young pirate apprentices. The story combines a mixture of modern technology with old-fashioned pirate lore. The black-and-white illustrations perfectly set the mood and the inclusion of "The Jolley-Rogers' Guide to Pirate-Speak" helps readers understand unfamiliar vocabulary. Nugget, Jim Lad's little sister, walks a bit of a tight rope between good and bad pirate, but Tilly and Jim Lad aptly demonstrate how wits and ingenuity are sometimes better weapons than swords and threats. This tale is great fun with tons of piratitide, one that even adults will enjoy.

Tina says

A fun read for children and adults alike and just like me, this book has a bit of corny humour!

Alex says

Our first foray into proper books without pictures for my 6 year old son. There's a whole new section of the bookshop suddenly opening up to us....bring on the bed-time story future!

Chris Harvey says

Enjoyed more than the other Jolly-Rogers book I read but is a little scary in places for the younger reader. It's a bit like the first Pirates of the Caribbean with tongue-in-cheek humour. Definitely worth a read.

Kris - My Novelesque Life says

THE JOLLEY-ROGERS AND THE GHOSTLY GALLEON

(The Jolley-Rogers: #1)

Written by Jonny Duddle

2014 (Reissued August 2, 2016); 160 Pages

Candlewick

Genre: children's, pirates, easy readers

(I received an ARC from the NETGALLEY in exchange for an honest review.)

4 Stars

"Ahoy, me hearties! Matilda and the Pirates Next Door return in a series of illustrated stories for young readers.

Every full moon, a mysterious ship is seen off the coast of Dull-on-Sea. Then, the next day, gold and jewelry are missing from homes, shops, and museums all over town. Matilda needs the Jolley-Rogers' help to investigate. Can Matilda and Jim Lad retrieve the stolen booty from the mysterious ship before the moon fades? Or will they end up stuck on board with a crew of ghostly pirates forever?" (From Publisher)

I enjoyed this cute chapter book. I loved the illustrations - which there are many of and gives you a feeling of a long picture book. This is a perfect book for little readers graduating from picture books to easy readers to easy chapter books. With quirky lovable characters, pirates and mysteries this will be a hit for the whole family.

k (My Novelesque Life)

James says

I'm a big fan of Jonny Duddle's picture books, my favourite being 'The Pirate Cruncher'. His artwork is absolutely stunning and his writing is fun and exciting. I really like in 'The Pirate Cruncher' how it reads like a proper sea shanty, you can't help but want to put on a pirate-y voice!

So when I heard he was expanding one of his picture books, 'The Pirates Next Door', into a series for 5-8 year old's I knew I had to give it a go.

This fun simple story was fantastic, the characters are brilliant and full of life and the story doesn't feel overly simple or too predictable which I feel can be hard for younger kids books. What really added to the story was all the illustrations that went along with it, not merely because I love Duddle's art style, but also in the way they were very much a part of the story telling itself.

I will certainly be checking out the rest in the series, and would highly recommend them to anyone looking to read to younger children some fun little pirate-y adventures! YAR!

Jess says

Ben really enjoyed this one - pirate adventure with a touch of spookiness. It's short but has a challenging vocabulary, so probably best as a read-aloud.

Mehsi says

I read the picture book: The Pirates Next Door, 8 days ago, and I wrote in my review that I would like to have more books or story about our pirate family. The publisher posted a comment and told me about these books. Of course, I immediately had to get them, since I really liked the picture book.

The Jolley-Rogers are back in this new book, still with a bunch of illustrations but now with a whole lot more text and story. And it was a great story. There is trouble afoot in Dull-on-Sea, this time the pirates are ghosts! They cause a lot of (hilarious) trouble. People are so paranoid, it is just so funny to see them go to the bank, or try to bury their stuff, just so it might be safe. They do tend to forget that ghosts can just go through stuff like walls and floors.

Mathilda calls the help of the Jolley-Roger family and they are more than willing to help out with the problem. I really enjoyed seeing Mathilda and Jim meet up again, they really are great friends even with the huge distance that is often between them.

And it was delightful to see the whole family again. From the picture book, I thought that the grandpa couldn't walk any more, but he seems to be walking perfectly fine in this one, just seems mostly lazy.

It was really funny that the key they needed was in such a place. It is a wonder that no one ever found it. Though... then again, it is mostly the best hiding spot when it is so ordinary.

The ghost pirates were pretty creepy and also very mean. Just like pirates are supposed to be. The Jolley-Rogers are also pirates, but I feel like they are more of the kind sort of pirates.

The story was fun, and it has a great ending.

The illustrations were great, I really enjoyed looking at them, they made the book even more awesome and more fun.

Sadly, the books are a quick read, before you know it the book is over! The book is that addicting, I just couldn't stop reading it.

Review first posted at <http://twirlingbookprincess.com/>
