



Epic Zero: Tales of a Not-So-Super 6th Grader

R.L. Ullman

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Growing up in a superhero family is cool, unless you're powerless ...

****Gold Medal Winner - Readers' Favorite Book Awards****

All Elliott Harkness wants is to be a superhero. His parents are superheroes. His older sister is a superhero. Heck, even his dog is a superhero. But Elliott has a problem--he's a "Zero"--which is super-speak for powerless! So, while his family is off fighting crime, Elliott is stuck muddling through middle school.

Elliott feels ever-so-ordinary, until a mysterious girl changes everything. For some reason, she believes Elliott is the only one who can capture a mega-powerful, extraterrestrial orb before it falls into the wrong hands. But with menacing supervillains and globe-conquering aliens closing in fast, will Elliott find the power to be the epic hero he's always wanted to be--or will he always be just an Epic Zero?

Epic Zero is the first book in a hilarious, action-packed series that will entertain kids, middle school students, and adults. Epic Zero includes 16 illustrated character profiles and a full glossary of superpowers.

****Over 500 five-star series reviews on Amazon and Goodreads.****

What readers are saying:

"Truly laugh out loud funny."

"My kids and I could not put this book down!"

"From beginning to end it had me guessing."

"You'll be rooting for the hero from page one."

"Extremely entertaining. Ullman has created a richly detailed world."

"The next Diary of a Wimpy Kid or Diary of a 6th Grade Ninja series."

"Holy moly, Batman! Move over! This book is a winner."

Epic Zero: Tales of a Not-So-Super 6th Grader Details

Date : Published August 15th 2015 by But That's Another Story ... Press

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Author : R.L. Ullman

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From Reader Review Epic Zero: Tales of a Not-So-Super 6th Grader for online ebook

Gillian says

I liked it. I really did not think i would, but it was a strong story with heroes and villains and sensible connecting action.

kamaljeetsandhu says

Love it

This book is the best book I have ever read. My favorite character was Elliot harkness, later known as epic zero. Great read for all ages.

Mel says

Immediately made me think of The Incredibles.

I liked the trading card style information about main characters at the end of each chapter.

I really enjoyed this! Great characters and Elliott's character was very well developed. I will definitely read the other books in the series.

Nicolas Fitzgerald says

[...High Commander is strangling some girl and he strangles so tightly that her neck blows. I like what Elliott Harkness said at the end. He said, "I will know whenever there will be evil."...(view spoiler)

(hide spoiler)]

Susan Walker says

This is a fun book for young people. It has fantasy and an adventure in it and makes for a fun read.

Joe Mosher says

I received a free review copy of this book, and I was impressed with this debut novel. It has everything a superhero fan of middle-grade age could want: action, suspense, and more than a little humor. Epic Zero is the story of a young man born into a family of powerful superheroes, but with no powers of his own. His situation is unique, but the feelings of not-quite-belonging and the struggle to find a sense of purpose and identity are things we all wrestled with at that age. Readers find a main character they can relate to, and will understand and go along when he makes questionable choices in his attempts to figure himself out and make his mark on the world. They'll be rooting for him from page one.

If the book has a flaw, it's that there is almost too much going on at times. In the interest of raising the stakes and ratcheting up the tension for the main character, a lot of villains are introduced, and more than a few heroes. On the one hand, this is a very good thing because they all seem to be interesting characters, with a variety of unique powers and weaknesses. Unfortunately, they are not all fully explored in any depth. This can easily expand into a series, with room to tell each hero and villain's tale more fully, so I'm looking forward to more from this author.

It is no spoiler to say that the main character, who begins the book getting less respect than he feels he deserves from his famous and powerful family, finds himself the center of attention and the center of the action, and by the end of the story he has his opportunity to prove himself, for better or worse. It's well worth your time to follow him through his journey, root for him, and learn whether or not he ultimately triumphs or ends up as the titular Epic Zero.

Melissa Stafford says

I was a lucky winner of Epic Zero through goodreads.com. My entire family enjoy super hero adventures, so when I saw this book as a giveaway, I knew I wanted to check it out. This is a great book for a fan of super heroes without too much violence for the younger crowd. My 11 year old daughter wants to read this next. I would recommend this book to kids of all ages.

Lamar says

I won this book here and it was worth it and was very good!

Tracy Fischer says

What a fun read! I just finished Epic Zero: A Superhero Story of Epic Proportions by author R.L. Ullman, and I have to say, I loved it! The story follows young Elliot Harkness, whose entire family belongs to the Freedom Force, the world's greatest superhero team. His entire family, that is, except for him. Much to his chagrin, Elliot does not possess any of the eight Meta-powers: energy manipulation, super speed, super

strength, magic, flight, super intelligence, morphing, or psychic abilities. In his community of superheroes, that makes him a Meta: 0, or powerless. To himself, that makes him an Epic Zero. But when the mysterious girl, K'ami Solarr, appears one day, and seems to believe that there's more to Elliot than meets the eye, well, that's when things start to change.

I knew this was a great children's/young adult book when my 11-year-old son kept trying to read it over my shoulder. The writing is perfect for kids, the pace is brisk, and storyline is exciting. I immediately drew connections from this book to the wonderful movie, The Incredibles, as the idea of superhero-ing families is the basis of both stories. But Epic Zero: A Superhero Story of Epic Proportions is so much more. I loved Elliot, the main character, and his strong desire to be a hero. I loved the message of the book, that sometimes even those who don't appear to be special on the surface may have deep talent that just needs to be discovered. I loved the illustrations that start each chapter; I just plain loved this book. This is a delightful read for children and tweens, even for children like my son who don't always enjoy reading. I am so happy I got a chance to recommend R.L. Ullman's newest work, and I look forward to reading more from him in the future!

Melissa says

This was a fun and quick read, I read it in one setting. My 10 year old liked it so much he asked to take the kindle to school so he could read it during breaks.

I was given this book in exchange for an honest review via LibraryThing.

Jordan Edgecomb says

This book is an excellent book for younger children. This superhero book about how, Epic Zero, not only saves his family, but his whole world. This book will not only take you along on the ride, but make you feel as if you are Epic Zero's best friend. In this book by R.L. Ullman, you will be a superhero.

Sharlene says

I received this book as the result of a First reads giveaway.

Holy moly Batman! Move over!!!

I honestly wasn't sure about this book when I entered the giveaway. Super hero books can be hard to like especially when written for a younger audience. I found I could not set this book down! From beginning to end it held my attention and had me guessing.

The main character is very easy to relate to. Especially as, most kids see themselves as nothing but a zero in a lot of situations. His sibling rivalry and parental conflicts are believable. I really liked that Ullman had a photo/synopsis of each superhero in the book that had a major role in the book at the end of each chapter.

The grammar, spelling and editing in this book warmed my heart and made reading it that much more enjoyable.

The plot and story line flow smoothly and realistically. The originality of the tale kept me reading and wondering what was next.

For me, having a young reader book doesn't normally make it to my favorites list easily and this book did it with ease. Witty, engaging and well thought out from beginning to end this book is a winner!

Phillip says

What lengths would you go to to fit in? For Elliott Harkness this question needs to be answered on his twelfth birthday.

Epic Zero is the story of a boy in a family of superheroes, except he has no powers. This is what they term a "Zero", while someone with powers is known as a "Meta". The "Metas" are split into eight categories based on what type of power they have, such as super strength or flight. Elliott does what he can to contribute to his family's fight against crime, but is left behind when a crime occurs.

I liked the voice the author uses. Elliott's personality is displayed well, and he is a pretty likeable character. Since he has no powers and feels kind of like an outsider, it is easy for the reader to identify with him. He gains some confidence after making a new friend at school, and this ultimately leads him down a path of self-discovery.

Some of the characters here are borrowed from other sources, although given different names and changed slightly. The author actually brings this up at one point in the story, which made it less corny for me. The villains could have been fleshed out better to make them more engaging. The showdown at the end was pretty satisfying given how the story builds to it.

The book is definitely intended for younger readers, but the writing is good enough that even adults can enjoy it.

Jessyca Garcia says

Epic Zero by R.L. Ullman is a very entertaining book. Elliott Harkness is the only one in his family that does not have super powers. He is known as a "zero" and his only dream is to have super powers. When something unexpected happens to his superhero family, his new friend K'ami Sollar convinces him that only he can save the world.

With Epic Zero, Ullman reminds me of why I used to love superheroes. Each superhero in the book has a unique super power and costume. It is slightly similar to X-Men in that sense but a lot more innocent and funny. A lot of people can identify with the main character, Elliott, and the desire to fit in. The different names that Ullman gave his superheroes and villains were funny and unique. My favorite character was Dog-Gone. He reminds me of my own dog the way he steals food. I loved that at the end of each chapter there is a superhero card stating their stats and whether they are a hero or a villain. At the end of the book Ullman explains the eight different Meta powers and their classifications. This was a great help to me because I am a zero when it comes to superhero knowledge.

Epic Zero is the first book in a soon to be young adult series. If the other books are anything like this one then the whole series will be great. I can see my 4 year old daughter reading this in a few years. She is

slightly obsessed with the show Super Why and I think that Epic Zero should be the next step into the superhero world. I recommend this book to any young adult who loves superheroes.

*I reviewed this book for Reader's Favorite

Jessica says

My Thoughts:

This put me in mind of The Incredibles. This story is mainly about a boy who is part of a family of superheroes, but he isn't displaying any of his own. Even their dog is super. And there was something about vegetables that made me laugh.

This is written in a way that makes you want to continue each chapter because just as something is happening, or you are about to get some tiny bit of answer, the author changes the topic and adds more excitement. I like this because it really held my child's attention.

There are these character profiles featuring a new subject that the author included. They sort of reminded me of baseball cards. These were really interesting and fun. I really think that this author did an amazing job writing this, I am surprised by how much fun this book was to share with my seven year old.

Recommendation:

This contains quite a bit of action. Some parts really excited my child. That being said, this may not be a great choice for a bedtime story. It would be good to read to a group. I am sure any child will enjoy something about this book. Amazon recommends this to readers grade three to six. I think children younger than this may enjoy this also. My son is in first.

I won this book in a giveaway.
