



Readers' Favorite®

Book Reviews and Award Contest

Title: Gata Unbound: A Series for Ailurophiles of All Ages
Subtitle: Klein's Weird Evening & Archimedes' Ear
Author: Lucy Noland, SJ Russell
Genre: Children - Animals



Reviewed by Kimberlee J Benart for Readers' Favorite

Klein's Weird Evening (Book 1) and *Archimedes' Ear* (Book 2) comprise the first volume of *Gata Unbound: A Series for Ailurophiles of All Ages*. Written by Lucy Noland and S.J. Russell, both are fully illustrated by Kaity Lacy. Klein and Archimedes are cats who live in a community called The Territory.

We first meet Klein as he wakes up fuzzy-headed, unsteady on his feet, and missing part of an ear. Not sure what has happened to him, he frantically calls his friend Archimedes on his cell phone. They meet, chat over tea and treats, and Archimedes decides to invent an ear attachment in his workshop. His inventions have been lucrative enough to pay for the college educations of his many kittens. A sign in one illustration reminds us to spay and neuter cats, giving a clue as to what may have happened to Klein.

In *Gata Unbound: A Series for Ailurophiles of All Ages*, Lucy Noland and S.J. Russell create a unique world with fascinating characters. The narrative is well-written, blending references to modern life and technology in a setting reminiscent of a fairy tale in which animals live as humans do. The character development is carefully crafted. You quickly grasp the nuances of a young Klein who admits he may have taken some bad catnip the night before, contributing to his confusion as to how he lost part of an ear. The older, steadier, philosophical Archimedes comes to his friend's aid. The illustrations are colorful, expressive, and wonderfully detailed, even to page numbers being held by little mice.

An amusing and entertaining story which can be enjoyed by young and old alike. I look forward to future volumes in the series.