



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



Review: Reviewed by Jack Magnus for Readers' Favorite

Gata Unbound: A Series for Ailurophiles of All Ages: Klein's Weird Evening & Archimedes' Ear is an animal adventure storybook for children and cat-lovers of all ages written by Lucy Noland and S.J. Russell, and illustrated by Kaity Lacy. Klein knew he had gone out the night before, as he almost always did, but he had no idea what had happened or even how he had gotten home. He felt decidedly peculiar; his mouth was dry, and his gait was unsteady, to say the least. Klein wondered if he had indulged a bit too heavily in his old favorite, catnip, but he had never had this bad a reaction before. He couldn't even get up enough energy or balance to go after Melvin, the pesky mouse, and as he sat there considering all these events, he lost consciousness. When he woke up again, he happened to see his reflection in the puddle he was lying in -- holy cats! What had happened to him? He was filled with horror and dismay at what he beheld. Could Archimedes help him?

Lucy Noland and S.J. Russell's Gata Unbound is a well-written and engaging tale about a cat whose wild night out leaves him with a very upsetting change. As I read this humorous and enjoyable story, I found myself comparing Klein's plight with that of a human who finds a tattoo boldly adorning a body part after a few too many the night before. I loved the drama of his discovery while the rodent population had great fun at his expense, and wondered just what his pal Archimedes could do to help him out. The authors do a grand job of bringing the two feline pals to life, giving them both complexity and personality. The reader can't help but wonder what happened to the piece of the ear as they read the tale. Kaity Lacy's illustrations seem divinely inspired, or should I say felinely, as they visually chronicle Klein's unfortunate discovery and Archimedes' search for a solution. Each panel is filled with bright, colorful images, making it hard to turn the page until every corner and tiny detail has been studied. I'm looking forward to the next book in this series. Gata Unbound: A Series for Ailurophiles of All Ages is most highly recommended.