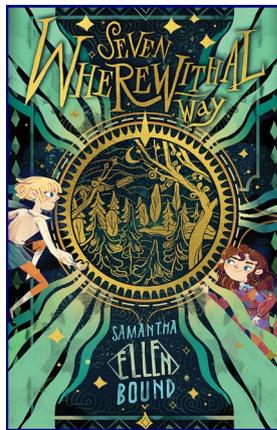


Seven Wherewithal Way: Book 1

By Samantha-Ellen Bound
Publisher: Affirm Press
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\$17.99

Blurb:

Ferdinand fell out of the sky on the hottest day of the year, while Celeste and Esmerelda Barden were on the front porch eating ice-cream. Celeste is having the worst summer ever. Her parents are off on an adventure and she's stuck at Gran's house with her annoying little sister, Esme, and strict instructions to be responsible. Or, as Esme says, boring. So when their eccentric cousin Ferd crash-lands a flying bus in the yard, what choice does Celeste have but to follow Ferd back home to Seven Wherewithal Way? Wherewithal - Ferd's house, and the gateway to the many Realms unreachable from Earth - is bursting with magic and mystery and otherworldly creatures. It's Celeste's favourite place in any world. But when something tries to break in through the portal in the pantry - the door to the mystical Realm of Forests - Celeste learns that both Wherewithal and her beloved cousin are under threat. If Celeste wants to save her cousin, their home, its inhabitants and possibly even all the Realms, she is going to have to find her adventurous side. Fast. Full of heart-in-your-mouth action, unforgettable characters and folklore-inspired magic that feels both fresh and familiar, *Seven Wherewithal Way* is the unputdownable first book in an epic portal fantasy series.



Lamont Review:

Celeste is expecting a pretty boring and unadventurous summer, spent at her Grandmother's house. But this all changes when her cousin Ferd lands in his flying bus in their front yard.

Ferd takes Celeste and her younger sister Esme on an incredible journey through portals into different realms.

Danger lurks in every corner, as do incredible monsters and hazards to stop them from keeping the realms in order...

To confront the danger in the Realms will take courage. But can the normally reserved Celeste find her adventurous side, and enough courage to succeed?

This is a fast-paced, action-packed adventure that is full of good natured humour. With themes of courage, adventure, family, tradition and doing the right thing, this is a terrific middle grade novel, best suited to upper primary and lower secondary readers.

Reviewed by Rob