

The Astronauties: Moon Mayhem

By Andrew Cranna

Publisher: Walker Books

ISBN 9781760653378 SCIS: 5400509

\$16.99

Blurb:

An out-of-this-world illustrated middle grade adventure that will have young readers giggling across the galaxy!

You may be asking yourself, dear reader, how three naughty kids, one pet octopug and their handsome robot minder – that’s me – accidentally got strapped inside a 400 megaton thermonuclear rocket on a one-way collision course to the moon? Good question! Well, let me take you back to the beginning . . .

In 2120 the Moon has been transformed into the ultimate super-cool intergalactic amusement park. The Astronauties, the children of some of the park’s designers, get a chance to visit the Lunar Park before it officially opens. But when they arrive, they discover their parents are missing. Now their mission is to find them, defeat the baddies and free a trapped alien. Hold on tight, this is going to be one wild rocket ride!



Lamont Review:

With a title of ‘The Astronauties’, you can only imagine what these kids might get up to!

It’s launch day for the Astro Academy and the Cosmo Kids have been training for months for this day. They are about to visit Lunar Park, the new amusement park being built on the moon!

The Astro Academy is for the very smartest kids. But not all those at the academy are smart—take the Astronauties—Halley, Rocket and Ziggy, who only find themselves there because their parents are away building Lunar Park. Their reputation for causing trouble is well known, so when they get an encrypted message from their parents, and they find themselves at mission control on Launch Day, what could possibly go wrong?

Follow these three friends, their Octopug and their robot on an epic adventure, that will see them uncover that not is all as it seems at Lunar Park...

This is a fun-filled, out of this world graphic novel that middle primary students will greatly enjoy.

Reviewed by Sam

Born to be Bad (Mischief and Mayhem #1)

By Ken Lamug
Publisher: Scholastic
ISBN 9781761203992 SCIS: 5399813
\$17.99

Blurb:

Mischief and her side-cat Mayhem are your respectably heinous villains. They'll spoil new movies, steal cake from parties they weren't invited to, and hit the good citizens where it'll dirty them most—their toilet paper. But before Mischief and Mayhem were ever supervillains, they were just Missy and Gizmo, fresh recruits at superhero boot camp. Except Missy lied on her hero application and has exactly zero superpowers, just her brainpower. Humiliated when caught and kicked out, she has only one fellow camp recruit who is willing to stand by her—Melvira. Unbeknownst to others, Melvira has her own villainous agenda, and it involves helping Missy cross the line into villainy as a new alter ego, Mischief. Something about Melvira doesn't sit right with Missy, and soon she'll be called upon to battle her former best friend ... but will Missy be able to face the friend who was once her defender?



Lamont Review:

Missy moves to Idleville, where the only thing that happens each year is the Festival of Superheroes.

Missy went to superhero boot camp with her recently rescued cat, Gizmo, but when they failed they soon became Mischief and Mayhem—SUPERVILLAINS.

They team up with Melvira, but soon realise that she is using them in her quest to take over the world. Will Mischief and Mayhem be able to stop her, or is it too late?

This is a terrific, action-packed graphic novel, with themes of finding your place, working together and using science for good, that will suit readers aged 8 and older.

Reviewed by Rob

Baloney and Friends: Going Up!

By Greg Pizzoli

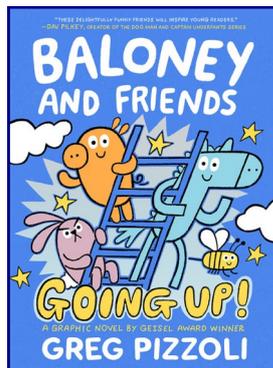
Publisher: Little, Brown Young Readers US / Hachette Children's Books

ISBN 9780316337656 SCIS: 5402324

\$12.99

Blurb:

Baloney and friends will have newly independent readers giggling their way through more day-to-day adventures in the second book of this pitch-perfect graphic novel series. Whether it's writing the lyrics to their own original theme song, having an epic sleepover in a tent, discovering a wonderful new device that lets them reach for the sky, or thinking deep (or deeply funny) thoughts about the world around them, this new collection of mini-tales and three mini-comics will have you cheering and rooting for Baloney the pig, Bizz the bumblebee, Peanut the horse, and everyone's favorite grumpy rabbit, Krabbit! And at the end, readers will learn to draw each character with different facial expressions and emotions by following clear step-by-step instructions.



Lamont Review:

Join four friends, Baloney the pig, Peanut the horse, Bizz the bee and Krabbit the grumpy rabbit, as they explore their surroundings and experience some humorous adventures along the way.

The illustrations are perfect, and the three stories are both quirky and thoughtful.

Being a graphic novel also made up of three shorter stories, this is a really approachable book that emerging readers will adore. It's lots of fun, and readers will keenly await future adventures of Baloney and friends!

Reviewed by Rob