The Explorer Book Review

By Arthur

4.5 stars

The Explorer is a book set in the 1950’s about four children, Max, Con, Lila and Fred, who were in a plane flying over the Amazon. But,their pilot passes out and crashes the plane. The children got away but the pilot died. Don’t worry, the death is done very softly. The children had to survive in the Amazon as well as discovering a creepy explorer with lots of secrets along the way.

Characters

Con

Con is a grumpy girl, always disagreeing with everyone and wants her own way. She has some secrets of her own that are discovered later on in the book

Max

Max is a silly five year old that is annoying and does not share anything with anyone. He is Lila’s little brother and is very demanding.

Lila

Lila is an eleven year old girl who acts as a mother figure to the group. She is very protective of Max and never lets him do anything risky or dangerous.

Fred

Fred is a boy that acts like the leader of the group and is the same age as Con. He is very tall and is part of a posh school because his dad is a very posh London banker.

Highlights and Weaknesses

I think this book was good because of how it was written. Katherine Rundell got all the characters spot on for the genre of the story and the age it was aimed at. Although, I felt that the ending was a bit rushed as there was lots of build up to the climax and then it was all done in another two chapters. If she could have stretched this out a bit more the ending would be a lot more exciting and enjoyable.

Emotions

The explorer book is a very emotional story with lots of ups and downs. I think some of the best writing in the book is how gentle the death of the pilot was. It was not scary at all and did not put fear into you like some other books do when someone dies. There are lots of other emotions in the story as well. You sometimes get that chuckle of laughter in your throat or that heartwarming feeling when something lovely happens. It definitely excels in this area.

Quotes

“Why are you chucking poo?”

“That’s it! The grub. You can eat it”

“Max only eat actual food, not grub pancakes.” complained Max.

“It’s mine now.”

“You want *us* to fly the plane?”

My thoughts on the book

I really enjoyed this book and would definitely recommend it for nine to eleven year olds who are into action/adventure books. The book is written in an amazing way to capture readers and it does not stop the incredible quality halfway through the book. I also love how it brings out so many emotions from you that you didn’t know a book could do. I really enjoyed this book and think it definitely deserves a 4.5 star rating.