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The Lost Wonderland Diaries

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Book Review

The Lost Wonderland Diaries

Author

J. Scott Savage

Reviewer

Tessa McMillan

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Rating

Excellent

Level

Intermediate

.....

Pages

352

Year

2020

ISBN

9781629727868

Publisher

Shadow Mountain

Moving to a new town means Celia can try to hide her dyslexia. Stuck at her mother's new job at the library, Celia meets Tyrus, a boy obsessed with books. A voice leads them to her mother's office where they find a chest with four old diaries. Opening one, they are transported into Wonderland. Sylvan, a white rabbit, tells them that a destructive plague is infesting Wonderland. It was prophesied that Wonderland will end unless another Alice saves it. Constantly on the run from the Red Queen, who is hunting them to open portals outside Wonderland, they meet others who help them find a prophecy. Celia realizes that the prophecy is her name switched around. Knowing she can save Wonderland, Celia and Tyrus take on the Red King, stopping the devastation that would return the land to its former "mad" glory.

Savage reintroduces readers to Wonderland, a place where behaviors do not make sense, but the world is surprisingly ruled by mathematical principles. Charles Dodgson (aka Lewis Carroll), the author of the original Alice's Adventures, was a mathematician, so math is critical to the story in this version. Celia uses her mathematical talent to tackle many problems they face. Savage includes this important plot point to show that someone with dyslexia may have complex talents in other areas beyond the written word. Savage makes many references to Carroll's original story, with several original characters readers may recognize. Any reader with some familiarity from seeing film adaptations will understand and enjoy Savage's story. Three other books are intended to follow in the series.