



How to Be a Pirate

Cressida Cowell

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Follows the further adventures and misadventures of Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III as his Viking training continues and his father leads a stranger and the Hairy Hooligans to the Isle of Skullions in search of a pirate's treasure. Now available in paperback!

How to Be a Pirate Details

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Author : Cressida Cowell

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From Reader Review How to Be a Pirate for online ebook

Deborah Pickstone says

3.5 stars

I laughed out loud at two or three places! Thus the 3.5 stars. Silly but somewhat entertaining.

Daniel says

Još jedna zabavna knjižica za mlađe naraštaje. Mada ovog puta ipak dosta ozbiljnija, sa manje humora i žak par strašnijih scena. Par likova je malo uznapredovalo mada sve ukupno status quo je ostao isti.

U svakom slučaju oseća se napredak u odnosu na prethodnu knjigu i ako spisateljica tako nastavi bit će super.

I dalje važi ako ste fanovi filmova slobodno navalite.

Laura says

People said this book was funny...I didn't find myself laughing..Maybe it's due to my age but I got the idea that adults also found the humour in this novel amusing..Even if I didn't find LOL moments I still enjoyed the storyline though!

My one complaint if you own the Kindle version...The text when Toothless speaks is kinda hard to read and you can't turn up the font size cause the pages are like in a PDF..And as you read you come to a letter from someone and it's basically unreadable on the Kindle. The font used is pretty terrible and I get they were going for a scrawly type writing which I'm sure is fine in print but for the Kindle it becomes a smudgy mess.

But besides this if you've any interest in dragons or the 'How to Train Your Dragon' world then this short but sweet novel is worth picking up. Again you're following the main character Hiccup and his hard to please dragon Toothless. But don't think the novel and the movie are really alike because they aren't.

Hiccup is starting to learn what it really means to be a pirate and how important his role is even if he doesn't completely agree with their ideals. He still struggles with many things and he's always getting an ear bashing from someone (or sometimes physical). This tale sends him deep into the ocean and just maybe he'll discover some treasure or not!

Trish says

So this was the 2nd volume in the series about Hiccup Horrendous III and his dragon Toothless. I must say, the differences to the movie(s) are enormous and I don't mean that in a good way. But I suppose both forms have their strengths and weaknesses.

The movie's strength: Toothless and his loyalty, his hilarious cat-like behaviour and his and Hiccup's teamwork.

The movie's weakness: Not too deep a message except for in the first movie where the topics misfits, wits beating muscles and physical disadvantages are mentioned. Maybe, if one was looking very hard, one could say that family issues and environmentalism were topics in the second. Maybe.

The books' strength: Somewhat deeper message or at least dealing with certain topics more thoroughly / for longer than the movie(s). Toothless' stutter and Dragonese (dragons language).

Books' weakness: Toothless' character often isn't very nice but whiney which got on my nerves. The adventures are sort of dull (maybe because there is no flying because Toothless is too small to carry Hiccup?).

This time the young Vikings are supposed to get their lesson in (surprise) How To Be A Pirate. The dragons are more in the background. It's the same-old same-old banter about which dragon is better, which Viking can fart louder ...

Hiccup is still his little clumsy self. At least we now know WHY Hiccup was so clumsy with his sword (that was actually not bad because – considering when the book was released – this was a major issue back then and the author sort of criticising common practice is nice). But he is also still a misfit and still at war with his cousin who wants to become the heir to Stoic (Hiccup's father and leader of the tribe) while Hiccup's best friend still observes several times that most Vikings are just brainless. This COULD be good but it's more like observation after observation after observation without any progress. Toothless is still complaining about everything.

The only difference is the scenery because this time there is more water.

However, again there is the lesson at the beginning, some major embarrassment for Hiccup and his dad, then some complications, mortal danger and TADAAAAA ... our hero is victorious once more. Not bad, just ... meh.

But it was still kind of funny. Just not always.

The best thing about this? Definitely David Tennant again. This is me whenever I hear him (especially when he's not holding back with his accent):

Kiki says

This book is really good, also it's not that difficult to read, but a challenging book. This book is about a kid/boy named Hiccup Horrendus the 3. you should really try to read this really great book.

beloved books by Tine says

es sind 199 Seiten und nicht 133

Catarina Miranda says

This was good and really fun! I enjoyed it! Hiccup is starting to understand the real meaning of being a hero and that's really important! He keeps evolving as a character, which is great to see! Also, the sarcasm in this book is so on point... I LOVE IT! My first read for the Christmas Booktube-a-Thon is done! Now, I don't know if I should start An Abundance of Katherines today... (I completed challenge number 3 – a gifted book - by reading this book)

Yasamin Seifaee says

actual rating: 3.5

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The Flooze says

Hiccup Horrendous Haddock the Third is not so Heroic - at least not by Viking terms - despite the fact that he's the Hooligan chief's only heir. **What he is is very, very clever**, an attribute overlooked in a society revering such skills as Shouting, Senseless Violence, Badd Sppeling, and Advanced Rudery. (Well, with a clan name of Hooligans, what did you expect?)

Hiccup is Heroic by my standards though. **He reads and observes and studies, and uses that brain of his to make decisions for the good of his tribe** - even if it means he looks more than a bit useless in the process.

How to Be a Pirate finds Hiccup **learning Swordfighting at Sea with both hilarious and catastrophic results**. As he showed in *How to Train Your Dragon*, Hiccup is more than willing to try, try, try again. He's also not *too* afraid to speak his mind when the adults around him are about to do foolish things (adults can be rather silly) like open a cursed coffin or trundle off on a suicidal hunt for legendary treasure. He manages to keep his head in scary situations, and he stands up for what he believes in. Admirable traits indeed, resulting in a **character we want to root for**.

Hiccup's companions don't really fit in with the Viking norm either. His best friend, Fishlegs, has "a squint, a limp, numerous allergies, and no coordination whatsoever," not to mention an utterly inept dragon. But he's loyal and smart and supportive of Hiccup - what more can you ask for in a friend? Hiccup's dragon, Toothless, is small and contrary and demanding as heck; he's constantly giving Hiccup a hard time. However, he's the only dragon in the whole Hooligan clan who sticks around when things go arseways. Though he may complain bitterly about heading into danger, he's actually a faithful little thing who helps both boys when it counts. These three are not well-loved by their tribe, but it doesn't matter much since they have each other.

Since the rest of the characters are beefy, battle-hungry Vikings, *How to Be a Pirate* includes a **fair amount**

of fighting and bullying. This is balanced against Hiccup's distaste for such behaviour, taking the glamour out of the violence. As the story unfolds, Cowell's message of brain over brawn is abundantly clear; **I don't think kids will have any problems discerning which route is preferable.**

The illustrations are horrible...in a good way. **Simple, unrefined pencil sketches**, they give us an idea of what the characters look like while providing amusement. They look like doodles more than anything, adding to the feel that we're reading Hiccup's personal diary.

The pacing was great: brisk, with **several cliffhanger chapter endings to keep kids eagerly flipping pages**, yet **Cowell still managed to incorporate lots of character development**, too. For a chapter book, I'm surprised at how well Hiccup's personality is described. Rather than coming off as a mere template, he possesses depth, making the lessons more poignant. I imagine this also makes it a more **enjoyable read for the adults** involved in storytime.

How to Be a Pirate is a silly book. It will make you chuckle and smile and shake your head in exasperation. At the same time, it presents a valuable message without ever seeming preachy. **I think young readers will be immensely entertained - so much so they won't even notice the lessons on being selfless and thoughtful as they sneakily seep into their brains.**

Liviu Szoke says

Parcă mi-a plăcut mai mult primul volum al seriei, „Cum să-ți dresezi dragonul”. Cel mai probabil cauza o reprezentă faptul că n-am mai avut senzația de nou, de inedit, de amuzament ca atunci când am săcut cunoștințe pentru prima dată cu numele personajelor și cu modul autoarei de-a-și imagina cele mai năstru-nice situații (având, totodată, și substrat). „Cum să fii pirat” este totuși o demnă continuare a celebrei povestii a lui Sughii și a dragonului său, Sbirbul, de data asta pe mare, în cadrul unei comori blestemate. Mai multe, pe FanSF: <https://wp.me/pz4D9-2Gg>.

Jennifer says

This is another book that was recommended to me by my son. I found the hero, Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III, to be very likable and funny. He is an unlikely viking, scrawny and uncoordinated, who is forced to take pirate lessons from "Gobber-the-Belch," another member of his tribe. Luckily Hiccup has a sympathetic best friend named Fishlegs and a small pet dragon named Toothless to see him through his adventures. An engaging quick read with a surprisingly wise ending, I recommend this book to all pirate lovers and anyone with a sense of humor.

Tarissa says

The plot begins when Hiccup's tribe locates a coffin, more exactly, one of Hiccup's ancestor's coffins. And it leads to a treasure. In for a scary adventure filled with dragons and danger?

... and Hiccup even finds out some interesting truths about himself. He may very well make an excellent

sword-fighting Viking one day...

Cons? There are some rather disgusting cracks that the boys may say – I suppose to show their Viking manliness – but I don't enjoy reading it too much.

But my favorite part is being able to listen to an audiobook narrated by David Tennant in his Scottish brogue.

SuperHeroQwimm says

Surprised to say I think I like this one better than the first.

Simona Stoica says

Oh, ?tirbule...

Joey Woolfardis says

After a while, the *How to Train your Dragon* books all seem to merge into one big pile of not-for-me so, whilst I said a full review would follow, sadly I don't particularly remember anything, either vaguely or pivotal to comment on. I think the series as a whole has some things to offer, though perhaps most of it sails underneath me.

From my rather abysmal memory, I just know that the humour seemed forced and wasn't particularly... *anything*, really. I didn't enjoy the historical aspects because they were wholly inaccurate right down to the pointy helmets and, though it had its fun moments, this truly is not a series for me.

Though I am loath to admit that the books aren't for me because I'm not a child. I dislike books that are "just for children". I'd prefer if your child read something else-something historically accurate but also extremely fun, but I don't know any books like that. To be honest, I'd suggest just watching the film.
