



Judy Moody and the Bucket List

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Judy is visiting Grandma Lou one day when she accidentally finds an uber-mysterious list of activities — a Bucket List! Which gives Judy an idea: How rare would it be if she made her own way-official bucket list of all the things she wants to do—before she starts fourth grade? Pretty soon Judy is off and running trying to cross off all her items: learn to do a cartwheel, invent something rad, go to Antarctica (the real one), ride a horse—the list goes on. But what happens if Grandma Lou achieves everything on her list? Does that mean she'll be ready to . . . kick the bucket?

Judy Moody and the Bucket List Details

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From Reader Review Judy Moody and the Bucket List for online ebook

David Joseph Mikels says

I listen to this book with my daughter she thinks it was terrific

Savannah Liebsack says

Summary:

Judy is searching through her grandma's purse when she stumbles upon a piece of paper. The paper has a list of things the grandma wants to do before she dies. Judy gets worried about if her grandma is dying or not. Her grandma reassures her that it won't be any time soon and then goes on to explain what a bucket list is. Judy is fascinated by this idea so she goes on to make her own bucket list. She tries to invent things, learns what contractions are to get three stickers, rides a horse, plays the drums, and tries to save money to go to Antartica. Her grandma talks to Judy about how things on bucket lists can also help others. Judy decides that she wants to help her local library by donating the money she saved for Antartica. The book ends with Judy being able to cross more things off her bucket list, including learning how to cart wheel.

1. How would you rewrite the story from Stink's point of view?
2. Why was it better that Judy donated her money to her local library rather than keeping it for the trip to Antartica?
3. What is your opinion of a bucket list and why do you feel that way?
4. Create your own bucket list.
5. What choice would you have made if one of your family members talked to you about helping others?

McDonald, M. (2016). Judy Moody and the Bucket List. Berryville, VA: Candlewick Press.

Kris Patrick says

How is Judy only up to No. 13? Seems more like 65.
Picked up at Book Expo.

Jana says

I received a digital ARC of this book from Netgalley in exchange for this review. Judy Moody books are good to transition emerging readers more comfortably into longer chapter books. They are aimed at readers who have outgrown Junie B. Jones. I also think these books remind me a little bit of Ramona Quimby from the popular series by Beverly Cleary.

In this installment, Junie gets a look at her grandmother's Bucket List. Once she gets over her dismay at the

implications of this type of list, she decides to make her own list of things she wants to accomplish before she goes to fourth grade. Among the items on her list are learning to do a cartwheel, learning a musical instrument, going to Antarctica, and riding a horse. Some items are easier than others, but Judy is up to the challenge!

I like that Judy has made a list of goals. She's very focused on achieving them. Grandma gently reminds her to be patient, because the whole point of this sort of list is to enjoy the progress and journey toward reaching the goals. It's important to have fun working through the items.

I also like that she learns to focus on others, instead of just herself. Grandma's been working on raising money to help buy children's books for the local library. This inspires Judy to want to help others, too.

I like this book because kids enjoy reading this series. They learn reading skills right along with Judy; in this book she has difficulty learning how to use contractions. But they also can take away great messages about patience and sharing, while enjoying the humor of a precocious third grader.

Brittany says

Originally posted on Beauty and the Bean Boots

Judy Moody's infamous moods will never kick the bucket.

In the thirteenth book in the popular series by Megan McDonald, Judy Moody gets a double rare idea from her Grandma Lou. She creates a bucket list of everything that she hopes to accomplish before starting fourth grade. From doing a cartwheel to visiting Antarctica (even though she only has a little over \$30), Judy sets off on another moody adventure.

Just last week I read my favorite book in the entire Judy Moody series, Judy Moody Declares Independence. I loved that addition to the series because although Judy kept true to her personality, she also grew as a character and became more responsible. I actually rated that book five out of five stars. Unfortunately, this book received a lower rating from me for several reasons.

First off, I was disappointed to see that all the maturity Judy gained seemed non-existent until the very end of this book. Earlier in the series, Judy committed herself to always brushing her hair, completing her household chores, and even being nice to her younger brother. In *The Bucket List*, Judy demanded even more allowance even though she invented a hairbrush that didn't actually brush her hair, neglected her daily chores, and was unnecessarily mean to her younger brother.

I also felt that the plot was very disjointed. It reminded me a lot of *The NOT Bummer Summer* book where Judy is checking off a list to compete with her friends. Everything Judy did related to her list, but none of the things she did every came off as very exciting like it they did in *The NOT Bummer Summer*. Yes, Judy Moody is meant to have moods, but she whined about everything in this book which ruined all of her experiences and the reader's experience as well.

Another disappointment with this book were the side characters. I was fine with old favorites just having cameos since they really didn't have any significance in this particular story. However, it seemed characters like the future dog owner and her father's back story were just thrown in and loosely moved the story along.

Even though I did have a few negatives, I also enjoyed a couple aspects of this story. Even though I wish we saw Grandma Lou more in the story, I really liked seeing Judy's relationship with someone else in her family. I think a lot of children would relate to how Judy felt about her grandmother. Also, we get to see a more sympathetic side of Judy with her grandmother. In the end, Judy makes a selfless decision, which is double rare for her, to help her grandmother achieve a dream.

While I thought this book was okay, it is definitely not my favorite in the Judy Moody series. Since I liked Judy's relationship with her grandmother, but felt the character growth, plot, and side characters were lacking, I give this book three out of five stars.

I received Judy Moody and the Bucket List from Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

Sheri S. says

Judy Moody comes across her grandmother's bucket list and decides to make her own list. She has some fairly attainable items, such as riding a horse, as well as some more involved goals, like taking a trip to Antarctica. In order to cross off some of the things on her bucket list, she must raise money and elicit the help of others. The book is a good way for kids to think about adventures they would like to have as well as goals they would like to attain.

Serenity says

A cute beginning chapter book, although the language and sentence structure seems to be a little more advanced. Definitely a good choice for younger readers with a good reading skills but a bit less stamina. Judy is a pretty realistic kid, who has a number of supportive adults in her life. Her relationship with her little brother seems pretty realistic, as well. I appreciated the little vocabulary and grammar lessons hidden in the story. A fun read.

Jaymie says

Cute!

Courtney Umlauf says

When Judy finds out her Grandma Lou has a bucket list made up of crazy fun things she wants to do in her lifetime, Judy decides to make her own list of things to accomplish before 4th grade. She wants to do big things (like go to Antarctica) and small things (like learn to do a cartwheel). How many will she check off her list?

Mehsi says

Our queen of the lists finds a bucket list, and you can already guess what will happen now!

Yep, Judy wants to know everything about a bucket list, she makes one of her own, and tries to cross off everything. But she is also learning a lesson about bucket lists. It is not about the crossing off, but it is about the journey towards it, having fun reaching it, feeling accomplished.

I also did feel sorry for Judy, she really thought her grandma might die if she completed her list. Of course people told her that wouldn't happen, but then I can imagine why Judy would feel that way. Her grandma is a bit older, and seeing her go through a list of things she wants to do before she kicks the bucket.... Her solution to it was hilarious, and also very sweet, and I am sure grandma will have a nice laugh out of it, maybe even hug Judy tightly because she knows what Judy thought when she made that solution.

Of course we have enough sibling rivalry, though there are times they get along great. It is a change from what I normally read about siblings in books. Either they always get along, or they never do.

Stink never ceases to amaze me with how much he knows about stuff. In this book we also see a whole lot of smartness.

I do wonder why the parents weren't a bit stricter on Stink. He kept butting in during conversations about Judy, or even ran towards his parents when Judy did something. I would have loved to see them say something to Stink about it. That he should just leave them to do the parenting.

Back to the bucket list. I just adored it and all the things Judy wanted to do. Some stuff was just impossible (going to Antarctica), but a lot of things were perfectly doable, easy, and fun. I loved how she learned new things, how she found out the joy of learning new things. How she tried her best to get the things crossed off.

The book is also stuffed to the brim with illustrations, and I just love them so much. I love that you can see how much better the artist got. The illustrations in this one are top-notch!

All in all, I do hope we will see more Judy Moody books. It is a bit sad that it takes longer for them to come out, I do hope this doesn't mean that the series will stop. :(

Review first posted at <https://twirlingbookprincess.com/>

Sepideh Dehghani says

2.5 ?

Is this me or the book?

Elliott Winter says

Several different feelings went through me as I read the 13th Judy Moody book. First off I did enjoy some of the humor and good Judy Moody feelings, but then when the focus became more about her list, and stopped feeling somewhat like a Judy Moody book it got a little disappointing. The charm and what felt like spontaneous Judy Moody quirks and humor from the earlier books didn't feel all that much here. Judy is nearing the end of third grade in this book, and while there were some fun things to focus on in this installment of Judy Moody's life, some of the words and actions didn't feel like Judy Moody.

The over use of the word Awesome-sauce seemed to be a bit stale after awhile. It wasn't as exciting or charming to see as Judy Moody's use of the word "Rare" for anything she found exciting. It's as if Megan McDonald didn't know how to bring Judy Moody out of 3rd grade to 4th or almost so, and still keep it feeling like the Judy Moody we come to know and love. The last line of the book gave me a somewhat emotional feel as it did feel like the close of a chapter of Judy Moody's life. It also had a feeling of could there be anymore Judy Moody books or is the end of the series? Only time will tell if anymore adventures of Judy Moody await us further down the line.

Kyle Robertson says

This is a great addition to the adventures of Judy and Stink! My seven year old has all the Judy Moody books and she loves them. This one is no exception. Judy finds her grandmother's bucket list and it inspires her to make her own list, which she hopes to complete before she starts fourth grade. I would recommend this book (and the others) to all fans of the series, or anyone looking to get their child started reading chapter books. I received this as a free ARC from Candlewick Press on NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

Meghan says

When Judy finds a list in her grandma's purse, she soon finds out all about what a bucket list is and is quick on her way to making one herself. She sets out on a list of things to do before she gets to the fourth grade. Things start off slow, but as she makes her way things get easier. This novel, not only shows Judy learning about setting goals for herself, but it shows the challenges she has to overcome to get to the end result. This was fun and exciting to see Judy so excited about different things. The character growth in Judy was so well done; it was subtle, but done in the best way possible. It was also really good to see the characters, mainly her grandma, around her be very supportive of her, and to see the relationships blossom, mostly between her and Stink. The plot was engaging and inspiring; the writing was fun and inviting. It felt like this was an ending to Judy as she's leaving the third grade behind to start new adventures in the fourth grade, and McDonald made it feel very final. Maybe we'll see more of Judy one day.

Tyler Weidman says

This book was a quirky, lighthearted read. Judy Moody finds a bucket list in her Grandma's purse. Her Grandma explains what a bucket list is, and Judy makes one for things to do before she starts fourth grade.

She begins by inventing the ouchless hairbrush, and an anti-static cat shampoo. Next she begins trying to raise money to visit Antarctica. She scoops poop for the neighbors for a few dollars here and there. While doing so, she meets Iggy, Future Dog Owner. Iggy tries to teach her how to cartwheel, another thing on the list, but Judy can't seem to get it. This continues on until she has most things on the list complete. Ride a horse, earn three stickers on a homework assignment, and so on. While working on her bucket list she asks her Grandma how her Grandma's is going. Her Grandma explains that the last thing on the bucket list is to make a difference, so she is raising money for children's books for a library that was hit by a hurricane. Judy realizes she wants to do something good for people on her bucket list, too. She decides she has plenty of time to go to Antarctica, and gives her poop scooping money to her Grandma so she can reach her goal for the library. At the end, Judy finally successfully does a cartwheel, and adds things to her Grandma's now completed bucket list so she can continue to reach new goals and adventures with Judy.

This is a great book for beginning readers or struggling readers. It is also a wonderful read aloud book for families. I think it would be great to read with students or children and to make your own bucket lists and share them along with the book. It is a great opportunity to discuss making a difference, setting goals and living life to the fullest. It may not hold the interest of older students or children.

I recommend this to young readers or struggling readers, or to advanced readers who just want a quick, lighthearted read.
