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Dragons Beware! (The Chronicles Of Claudette)



Synopsis

Scrappy Claudette sets out once again with her pal Marie and her little brother Gaston to right wrongs and fight evil. And this time, it's personal. Claudette is out to get the dragon who ate her father's legs...and his legendary sword. But as usual, nothing is as simple as it seems, and Claudette is going to need Marie and Gaston's help more than ever. Funny, fast, high-energy storytelling in an inventive and perilous fantasy landscape makes *Dragons Beware!* a fantastic follow-up to 2012's middle-grade hit *Giants Beware!*

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 320 (What's this?)

Series: The Chronicles of Claudette

Paperback: 160 pages

Publisher: First Second (May 12, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1596438789

ISBN-13: 978-1596438781

Product Dimensions: 7.5 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 37 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #153,366 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #27 in [Books > Children's Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Fantasy](#) #363 in [Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Dragons](#) #3746 in [Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy & Magic](#)

Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

Customer Reviews

Gr 3-5 • After saving her village of Mont Petit Pierre from the savage Baby-Foot Eating Giant in *Giants Beware* (First Second, 2012), plucky heroine Claudette sets her sights on a new threat to her friends and family. Years before, the fearsome dragon Azra the Atrocious fought with Claudette's father and swallowed not only his magic sword, Breaker, but also his legs and an arm; now Claudette is determined to get the sword back. Before she can put her plan in motion, a more immediate foe threatens her home: the evil wizard Grombach has escaped his island prison and raised an army of gargoyles to destroy the town forever. Only Breaker can save them, so

Claudette's father sets off to get it back. Incensed at being left behind, it is not long before Claudette enlists the aid of her brother Gaston and her friend Marie to follow and help her dad. This volume contains many of the same elements that made its predecessor so successful. The art perfectly suits the tone and action and the story is smart and funny. The true strength of the series, however, lies in the characterization. Claudette is just the right amount of bold and daring, Gaston is insecure but stronger than he realizes, and Marie is going to make a wonderful princess someday. Along with a great supporting cast, complete with seven lovelorn princes all vying for Marie's attention, no character is left behind. Kids will eat up this installment and eagerly await the next series offering.

VERDICT *Dragons Beware* will delight fans of the first title. — Erik Knapp, Davis Library, Plano, TX

"The series manages to foreground reasoning, diplomacy, and cooperation without sparing any of the freewheeling action or dragon-vomiting humor." — Booklist "This rowdy adventure is sure to be a crowd pleaser." — Kirkus "Kids will eat up this installment and eagerly await the next series offering." — SLJ Praise for *Giant's Beware!* — "Fast, fun, and joyous to look at!" — Jeff Smith, author of *Bone* — "A young heroine and her two sidekicks set off on adventure in *Giants Beware!*" — *The New York Times* — "A surefire hit!" — Publishers Weekly, starred review — "Strong and lively!" — School Library Journal, starred review — "The writing is great, the artwork is just stupendous - I can't recommend this book highly enough!" — BoingBoing Geek Week Podcast

This is an excellent book for kids -- readers and early readers. A graphic novel with great characters, and fresh gender roles -- the princess, the pastry chef/sword maker, and the giant-hunter -- all of these have to work together to save the town while doing good. It's a story about non-violence, about adventure, about friendship, about teamwork, about community, and about dreams. The kids each have to work with their strengths and value each other's strengths to complete their epic adventure. Particularly great in that Claudette, the orange-haired hero, is a great role model for kids -- boys and girls -- about being strong and yet relying on friends and family to be stronger. The father's handicap is also a great element of the story -- not something played up; it just is. While most of the characters are peach-skinned, there are brown-skinned characters too, who just are, and that's also a great element of the story. There's a bigger message of inclusion and community strength coming from diversity itself.

My daughter and I just finished wolfing down "Dragons Beware!" and I think this one is even better than the first! The mythology of the town and its history is deepening, and the three main characters are coming into their own. Plus some of the side characters are getting fleshed out in very interesting ways -- I am a big fan of the Apple Hag and Leon the Sentry. As we were reading we both gasped out loud at certain moments, laughed at the silly gags, and then oohed at the gorgeous purply twilight forest scenes and lush cave and waterfall spreads. And I love how the creators found a role for each of the kids' strengths to play a critical role in the climax with Azra, and the recurring themes of diplomacy and the art of negotiation, and being loyal to your friends. Can't wait for the next book!

This is the book that has my 6 year old son excited about reading. He will spend hours pouring over it, and it has become my ultimate "you HAVE to be quiet at this two hour funeral" tool. Dragons, hags, sorcerers, and lots of humor; it's pitched at 6 year olds, is still funny to adults, and the illustrations are fantastic. I also LOVE that the protagonist is a feisty female.

My 7 year old son has not stopped re-reading it since he got it for his birthday three months ago. I have not gotten a chance to read through it, so I can't comment on the story / art...

My 8-year-old son read this cover to cover, 5 times in a row. Are you kidding me??? How could I NOT rate this with 5 stars? Giants Beware was equally intoxicating to him. Maybe I should worry that the boy skipped meals to finish it "just one more time", but I'm simply grateful a book could capture his attention so thoroughly. I beg the author/illustrator to CREATE MORE BOOKS for these growing readers!

Why is it SO HARD to find comic books that are, heck, books of any kind or genre for young kids with compelling female protagonists who kick butt and aren't looking for or being sought after by a guy? This is one of the good ones. My daughter loves it. That my own kid doesn't look like nor has any desire to look like one of the "girls" it's wonderfully refreshing to SEE a drawn girl who looks like my own. More than a great story (and it is a great story), this is representation at its best. Like "Giants Beware," this is a rare gem.

My 9-year-old adores this series. Write more! Write more!!!!

My daughters loved the first one, and I agree with them. The characters are fun and entertaining, the story has strong female characters without bashing men, and it's a fun read. This one lives up to the first one's legacy, as it's just as much fun to read and provides great female characters for my daughters to look up to.

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