



The Hidden Stairs and the Magic Carpet

Tony Abbott , Tim Jessell (Illustrator)

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Underneath the steps leading down to Eric's basement is a hidden storage space. It's dusty and old- nothing special at all. But when Eric, Julie, and Neal all huddle inside the gray room together, something unbelievable happens. A glittering light and then a rainbow-colored staircase appear. And as the kids take their very first step down into the mysterious land of Droon, they know that only magic and adventure await them!

The Hidden Stairs and the Magic Carpet Details

Date : Published June 1st 1999 by Scholastic

ISBN : 9780590108393

Author : Tony Abbott , Tim Jessell (Illustrator)

Format : Paperback 81 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Childrens, Adventure, Fiction, Magic

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From Reader Review The Hidden Stairs and the Magic Carpet for online ebook

Andrea says

I finished reading the first book of the Secrets of Droon chapter book series with my 5-year-old tonight. He is completely enthralled, and has already started seeking out the subsequent books in his school library (we have #2,3, and 4 in a box set). After we finished the first book, he said "and tomorrow night we'll read the first two chapters of the next book!" I thought the writing was engaging for youngsters, and painted a very vivid and exciting picture of the adventures these young friends embark on. I am excited to start my son reading chapter books, and what a great first adventure to spark his imagination!

Terri Lynn says

This is a very nice little series for children from 4 (to be read to unless you are a homeschool family who teaches your kids to read at 4 like we do) to 9. Three kids are cleaning a basement when a hidden magical staircase pops up unexpectedly in a closet. Of course they all have to go down it and they discover a lower world called Droon which has wizards, kick-ass princesses, weird creatures, and an evil Sauron type guy who wants to get back the magical things he made long ago so to take over the Upper World (Earth). This series is channeling Tolkien in its quest by an evil one to get back the magical objects that will bring him power which have been hidden from him.

Steven R. McEvoy says

I must admit I was leary of starting this book. It is hard to imagine starting a new series with over 40 books in it that was started 16 years ago. I feared loving the book and being hooked for the whole series. And as much as I love most of Tony Abbott's books that I have read I also feared not liking it and being disappointed. With mixed feelings I must say it is the first. I now have a much bigger to read pile thanks to venturing into the world of Droon.

I find I go through spurts reading middle grade, young adult, and non-fiction almost alternately. I am really glad I picked up this book. My oldest two children are just at the point where they can read these books to me. It has been really fun going back and reading some of Tony Abbott's earlier works now that they are showing up in ebook formats. This book though simple, was very enjoyable and I know my children will love it. And the benefit is that being part of a finished series they will not have to wait for new books to come out.

This is an interesting fantasy story. For when Julie, Neal, and Eric are cleaning the basement they discover that when the door under the stairs is closed a set of steps appear leading down, those steps lead to another realm, the realm of Droon. They soon realize that Droon is a place in turmoil and after encountering red shiny men, flying lizards, And angry wizard named Sparr and some other fantastical creatures, and a princess that needs their help. And much more. Overall a great little read.

This was the 16th book by Tony Aboott that I have read out of his 100 published. It was a fun read and I look

forward to where the series will go next. So give it a try and see, you just might fall in love with Droon also!

Read the review on my blog [Book Reviews and More](#) with links to reviews of other books by Tony. As well as an author profile and interview with Tony Abbott.

Ardea Smith says

Title / Author / Publication Date: The Hidden Stairs and the Magic Carpet/Tony Abbot/1999

Genre: Fiction, Fantasy

Format: Hardcover

Plot summary: This book was easy to read and would have been just the sort of adventure I'd love to have read when I was in 2nd or 3rd grade!

After entering the tiny room underneath the stairs, three friends find themselves in a magic world of shiny red men and flying lizards, and they are soon forced to face great challenges in order to survive and make their way back home.

Considerations or precautions for readers advisory: N/A

Review citation: N/A

Section source used to find the material: Christina Jones Recommendation, Monroe County Public Library

Recommended age: 9 and up

Hayden Wier says

I read this series when I was a first grader and thought it was great. I still have most of the books.

Mary says

"To Droon!" they cheered." I agree! This is a fun little chapter book which will appeal to grades 2-4 and maybe even early grade 1 readers. A little *Chronicles of Narnia*, a dash of *Lord of the Rings*, and a pinch of *Harry Potter*, wrapped in short chapters and age appropriate language, round out the recipe for *The Hidden Stairs and the Magic Carpet*, the first book in *The Secrets of Droon Series*. Follow Eric and his friends down a secret staircase hidden in his basement to the land of Droon, filled strange creatures, an evil wizard and a powerful princess.

CIP Summary:

None. From the back of the book: "Eric, Julie and Neal have just found something magic in Eric's basement.

They have discovered a staircase to another world!"

From Booklist Online:

The story is full of otherworldly creatures and strange magic. Wyman's careful, finely paced reading allows young listeners to absorb the strange creatures and the magic. He wisely differentiates his tones slightly so kids can distinguish between heroes and villains. As well, Wyman's skillful narration builds suspense. The recording begins and ends with music.

Jamie says

For all the hype I heard on this series I was a bit disappointed. The book is a second grade reading level (give or take depending on the child) with a kindergarten story line. It focuses on 3 children who are suppose to be cleaning out a basement and learn that the closet under the stairs is a gateway to another world, called Droon. They enter Droon, save a princess and go home. End of story.

The overall concept for this series seemed to have potential but I feel the author could have done a better job and added more to it for the older children or shortened it and kept it a young children's book. Just my opinion, mind you.

Krissy says

Rated by my daughter

Ahmad Sharabiani says

The Hidden Stairs and the Magic Carpet (The Secrets of Droon #1), Tony Abbott, Tim Jessell (Illustrator)
Something under the stairs...is magic! For Julie, Eric, and Neal, an enchanted staircase in Eric's basement is the portal to their first adventure in the fantastical and troubled land of Droon.

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Fatemeh says

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Andrew says

Okay, the truth is, this book is poorly written, has corny messages, and paper thin characters. It has about seventy five pages of plot, and the series goes on far too long. That's the way I look on it now. However, I was absolutely obsessed with this series when I was in second grade, and read the first twenty books or so really quickly, since I loved it. Since this book is aimed at that age group, it obviously did something right. By the way, something I'm annoyed at with these series (droon, magic tree house, etc.) is that the first fans, who loved the first books as they came out, are far too old for books thirty or forty. It makes people never able to finish the series.

Nancy says

My grandson who is an almost 7 first grader loves this series. I thought I should read at least one so I'd know the main characters and the basic plot. This book is a fairly standard secret world adventure story where the good guys are really good, the bad guys are "pure evil" and the children save the day. While it did not do much for me, I see why a 6 or 7 year old would really love this fast moving story.

Rebecca ♥ Warner, Kishan, Magnus ♥ says

Someone was selling a lot of 12 middle grade books on Facebook for \$5. How could I refuse? Some I wanted, some I didn't. Some I already had, and some I had never heard of. This one falls into the last category. But it was only 80 pages so I figured I would give it a shot. I just read it in about 45 minutes. It was pretty cute and fun, and made me so excited for the future where I can read books like this to my daughters before bed. I will have to remember this series and come back to it in a few years when they are older. I'm not sure what the best age is for this book. 8? My oldest is only 3. ?

Michelle Isenhoff says

Early chapter books aren't my specialty. I don't read them often, but my son was in need of a new series, so I read the first book of The Secrets of Droon. I was impressed. The story was very simplistic, of course, but what takes me twenty minutes to breeze through takes him several hours. That's enough time for a child to be thoroughly immersed in a magical adventure.

Eric Hinkle and his friends Neil and Julie are regular soccer-playing kids who stumble onto a stairway that leads to Droon. But Droon is an unhappy land, terrorized by the evil Lord Sparr. Princess Keeah charges Eric with delivering an important message to Galen Longbeard, the five hundred-year-old wizard. Shortly after, she's captured by Ninns (Lord Sparr's red, fat-faced minions) who ride groggles (flying lizards). Even worse, Lord Sparr is close to finding the first of Three Powers that would give him dominion over the whole world. It's up to Eric and friends to set things right.

This is a well-done story for only eighty pages of large type. Sentences and chapters are short and

manageable. Words and names are mostly phonetic, easy to sound out, like “Sparr” and “Zorfendorf.” It does include some more challenging vocabulary words like “invisible” and “petrified,” but I like to see a few stretchers. I’d call it an easy third grade read and a real kid-pleaser. And there are FORTY books in this series to keep them reading.

Stevie says

This series was my first foray into fantasy books in second grade. I remember reading one or two a day and passing them on to my fellow blossoming readers in my class. For a fantasy loving, imaginative seven year old there was nothing better than sitting down on the couch after school with the latest book in the Secrets of Droon series. For a children's' series, it was fun to read. I'd recommend it to any parent looking to get their young kids into reading (6-10 years old depending on reading level). When I out grew this series there was about 20 or so books published, so I never finished the series.
