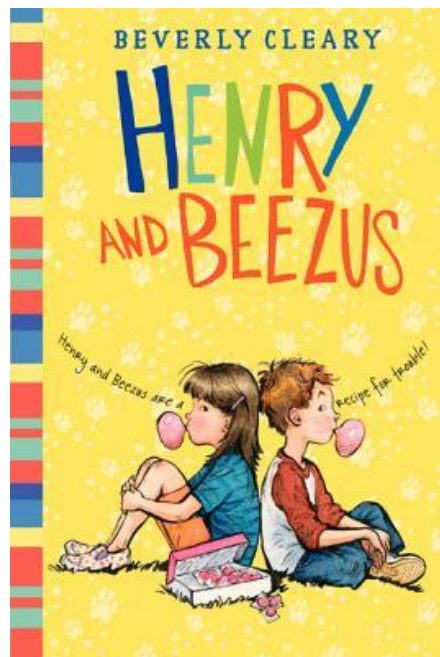




Henry and Beezus

Beverly Cleary , Tracy Dockray (Illustrations)

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For the well-meaning Henry Huggins, nothing ever works out quite as planned—including getting the bike of his dreams. Luckily his pal Beezus Quimby is there to help!

Henry's attempts at raising money for his bike fund keep falling flat. Selling bubble gum on the playground gets him in trouble with his teacher, and then Ribsy's nose for mischief almost ruins Henry's paper route. Even pesky little Ramona Quimby manages to get in the way of Henry's chance at a bike. But no matter what, Henry can always count on reliable Beezus to stick by his side.

Newbery Medal winner Beverly Cleary portrays a genuine friendship, while telling a very funny story boys and girls alike will enjoy.

Henry and Beezus Details

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From Reader Review Henry and Beezus for online ebook

Cristi-Lael says

Very cute. We love to read about Henry Huggins' adventures.

Linnae says

I think this was our favorite so far of the Henry Huggins stories. The kids laughed out loud at several points in the story. Ramona's hijinks were more funny than annoying (to us anyway!) and Henry's adventures were at the same time ordinary and just a touch past what the kids have experienced. A lifetime supply of bubblegum! A dog that learned his trick a little too well and also gets a parking ticket.

And of course, the gem that still comes up in conversation at times:
"There goes the boy that ate the dog food."

We loved it!

Becky says

I definitely enjoyed rereading Henry and Beezus. Unlike the Ramona series, I've only read the Henry Huggins books once or twice. Henry Huggins, our hero, really, really wants a bicycle. His parents can't afford to give him one, and, he doesn't expect it of them. He doesn't feel entitled to it. If only there was a way to earn enough money to buy it himself.

"Henry and The Roast." Readers meet Henry and Ribsy, learn of his great desire for a bicycle, and witness Ribsy steal a roast from the neighbor's barbecue. Readers also meet Henry's nemesis: Scooter, a boy with a bicycle and a paper route. A boy who happens along just in time to "save the day" or save the roast and save Ribsy from a dog fight.

"Henry Gets Rich." Henry discovers abandoned boxes of gumballs. He needs Beezus' red wagon to carry them back home. But borrowing the wagon means getting Beezus and Ramona to tag along with him.

"Ramona," coaxed Beezus, "can't you play that game some other time?"

"What game?" asked Henry. He couldn't see that Ramona was playing any game.

"She's playing she's waiting for a bus," explained Beezus.

Henry groaned. It was the dumbest game he had ever heard of. "Doesn't she know it isn't any fun just to sit on a box?" he asked, looking nervously up and down the street. If only he could be sure no one else had discovered his gum!

"Sh-h," whispered Beezus. "She thinks it's fun and I don't want her to find out it isn't. It keeps her quiet." Then she said to her little sister, "If you get in the wagon, Henry and I'll pull you and you can pretend you're riding on the bus." (40)

Henry thinks the gum a great discovery. He can even sell it to all his friends and classmates. He can make some money for his bike fund. But the teachers aren't happy about all the gum. (Neither are the janitors). And he finds it increasingly hard to sell gum after the first day or two. Maybe the gum wasn't such a wonderful discovery after all.

"The Untraining of Ribsy" Henry has the opportunity to take over Scooter's paper route for a week. A dollar will help his bike fund that's for sure. But can he stop Ribsy from "stealing" papers on the route? Beezus and Ramona make an appearance in this chapter as well. In fact, it is Ramona who accidentally provides a solution.

"Henry Parks His Dog" and "Beezus Makes A Bid" Henry, Beezus, and Ramona go to a police auction. Henry's trying to buy a bicycle at the auction with his \$4.04. (He had to spend a dime to buy Ramona a snack. He didn't want to stop at the store and "park his dog" outside, but, he had to do something to get Ramona to behave.) Will he get a good deal? Or will all the kids tease him?

"The Boy Who Ate Dog Food" Everyone is excited about the grand opening of Colossal Market. There will be prizes and free samples. Henry and his parents go. As do Beezus and her family, I believe. (I think all the neighbors go.) Henry is lucky and unlucky. He wins something. But the prize, at first, feels very unlucky. He won \$50 of work at a BEAUTY SALON. He doesn't need manicures, waves, and facials. Everyone is laughing. Which leads him to accept a dare to eat dog food. But then he realizes that he can SELL his prize and get the money for what he wants most...

Judy says

In her third book for middle-grade readers, Henry Huggins returns. This time he wants a bicycle, another icon of 1950s suburban life. His adventures and efforts to procure the bike are shared with Beezus and her little sister Ramona, who feature in some of the later stories.

A third grade boy being forced into hanging out with a girl is the issue here. Funnily enough, I don't recall it being a big deal if you played with boys or girls when I was that age, but there was only one boy among several girls in my neighborhood, so it could have been more of a problem for him.

Henry's dog Ribsy as much of a character as the kids. The neighborhood bully gets what's coming to him and everyone has fun. Cleary makes it clear that a kid's problems are as real and important as any adult's.

I am still mystified as to how I missed these books when I was that age. I can only figure that I was living that life instead of reading about it.

Jaime W says

A classic. So nostalgic because Cleary captures childhood so well and my mom read this to me as a child.

Brenda Noonan says

This is a great book for kids! In this book Henry tries to get a bike...I will Not tell too much more in case you want to read it...like I said a very great story for kids. Henry plus Beezus= TROUBLE It all started when Henry was at his house on Sunday...looking out the window...

Natalie says

As a part of UMHB's READ 3307, I read Henry and Beezus by Beverly Cleary and Tracy Dockray. This story tell of the life and struggles of young Henry Huggins as he attempts to earn enough money for a bike. This book is very realistic is that it is set in and around Henry's school and neighborhood. This problem he faces of how to earn money at his age is one that many children face. Not only that but crazy, cheerful, and daring Beezus is just developed so well as to not be such a stereotypical annoying little sister but her depth and development throughout the book shows that change that all children undergo through life.

The Styling Librarian says

Henry Huggins, Henry and Beezus, Henry and Ribsy, Henry and the Paper Route, Henry and the Clubhouse, and Ribsy – I was quite happy to listen to this collection of books! It was quitespecial to listen to Beverly Cleary introduce the book and honestly loved listening to Neil Patrick Harris narrate most of the stories. What a treasured character I just love remembering from childhood. I'm happy that I've been able to introduce my son to Henry Huggins, perfect for his age and life experiences from dealing with pushy kids to losing teeth to loving dogs to taking on responsibility.

Isabella Vuoso says

(Just a warning there is spoilers in this review.) This is a great book for all ages. My favorite part in this book was when Henry finds a bunch of bubble gum in the parking lot and shares with everyone. The funniest part of this book in my opinion was when Henry hides meat in the bushes and still eats it. Overall this is a great book!

Anne says

I love how delighted Ellery gets every time Beezus & Ramona are mentioned in the Henry books. We also love how Cleary always puts seemingly innocuous details about something into the story only to have said detail be the solution to Henry's problem or thing that saves the day.

I've said it before & I'll say it again: Beverly Cleary is a national treasure.

Kristine Hansen says

Henry finds himself in all the usual scrapes in this second go-round. Most of them are caused by Ribsy. Some to do with his overwhelming ambition to have his own bicycle. Thankfully there's always Beezus (and by extension Ramona) around someplace to help make things right again.

I love Beverly Cleary's world. Told with a lot of humor, these books also hide a lot of understanding about what it's like to be a child, and how to think like someone who is very young. I remember feeling much the way Henry did when I was growing up, so these books become a nostalgic read for me. What I love is seeing how much my children came to love these books too as I used them through the years for homeschooling. It amazes me how the stories never seem to really age or grow old (even if they are a little dated at times).

Wan Yu(Stephanie) says

This is a supereasy book but also advantageous. Advantageous means useful and helpful. Two big ideas I found in this book is don't be jealous and work on your own. Henry is a teenager who always got jealous of what people had. For example, in this summer, he got jealous in what the big showoff Scooter had - a bicycle. Henry wanted one too, and he tried many ways to trick his parents but failed. Therefore, he decided to get one by himself. What is he going to do in order to get one? Steal? NO, he went to work... I think we can't be jealous of what others had, because if you jealous, means you have desires on things. Desires lead to suffering when you don't achieve what you want. but I think as a teenager, we should try to work and achieve your goal on your own, because that's another way helps us to grow.

J.M. Hushour says

Escape from election year on Klickitat Street.

Hearken back to an age when kids wandered around the neighborhood without fear and their biggest fear was not getting gunned down at school like the news and paranoid helicopter parents tell them, but was rather how to prepare the shitty bike they won at a police auction (again, sans parents) for the neighborhood street parade.

In his quest to get a bike, Henry suffers through all manner of torments, a mid-20th century Sisyphus who would eat dog food to secure his dream. At one point, he even gets into back alley confectionarcotics, selling bubble gum to other kids on the playground out of a stack of boxes he found in a vacant lot. Nowadays he'd probably get sued. Or shot.

Revisit a time when children's stories were written for children, not for grown-ups who can't stomach having children of their own or who are trapped within them, when kids were just kids dealing with normal kid stuff, not warring with vampires, zombies, wishful-thinkings for sadistic dystopias, or sexual identities!

Sarina says

The Ramona books were some of my favorites when I was little, but I never got around to reading any of the Henry Huggins books. I remedied that this week.

Basically, this book is about how far Henry Huggins will go to attain a bicycle and how many times his plans are thwarted. When he discovers boxes of bubblegum, he wants to sell them to his classmates to get money for his bike fund, but that scheme falls apart when his classmates get tired of his gum and when his school outlaws gum. Then he tries to take over Scooter's paper route to earn money, but Ribsy fetches the neighbor's papers before anyone can read them. The chapters continue along these lines until one night Henry finally finds himself with enough money to buy a bike.

I don't think I'll read any of the other Henry Huggins books, because I am not interested in any of those books without either of the Quimby sisters as a main character.

Rebecca says

Well, this is it: the lowest-rated Beverly Cleary book on my "read-out-loud" shelf. Henry was a lot more endearing in *Henry Huggins*. In *Henry and Beezus*, he struggles to earn enough money to buy a bike. Beezus offers her encouragement and support along the way, and Henry barely appreciates it. After all, she's a stupid girl with silly, girly ideas. I know Henry is just a kid, and I know it's 1952, but his sexist attitudes got annoying.

We read the 1990 edition with new illustrations. The kids wear updated clothing styles and one child even sports a bike helmet. I didn't appreciate this attempt at revising history. Henry has old-fashioned notions about girls and can buy a box of crackers for ten cents, but his friend is somehow half a century ahead on the bike laws? It's confusing.

I did like the part in which Beezus and Ramona enter Henry's house gnawing on cabbage cores. That was an odd and somehow delightful little detail!

Lars Guthrie says

Cleary's third book, the second Henry Huggins, and although Beezus makes it into the title, it's her little sister who steals the show, insisting on being "wound up" before she can move, eating only the lions in animal crackers box, generally demonstrating the iconoclasm that resulted in her taking center stage in seven of Cleary's titles. Highly recommended.

Bonnie says

Although the title is a bit misleading (Beezus really isn't a core character in this story), it was still another delightful, timeless and funny story about the adventures of Henry Huggins. The main plot in this book is Henry's desire to get a bike of his own. I laughed out loud several times, especially at the antics of Beezus's little sister Ramona, so that makes me think I'll have to read the Ramona books next.

KrisTina says

Cute. I mean nothing earth-shattering but I love listening to these books with my son, Henry. However, poor Henry Huggins seems to not think very highly of himself. My cousin told me that she doesn't read these books to her elementary school classroom because the language seems so out-dated - which it is- but I think listening helps overcome that. These are just sweet stories. I have no doubt that we'll continue reading/listening to them.

Ariel says

There is no better comfort re-read than Beverly Cleary, so being home sick I have been burrowing deep in the heart of Klickitat Street. Sometimes Henry's dismissal of his loyal friend Beezus is unselfconsciously sexist and annoying, but mostly the story of a boy who is trying to earn enough money for a bicycle with his friends' help remarkably undated. Also introduces the inimitable Ramona Quimby, who immediately steals any scene she is in.

Sara ♥ says

This is the second installment of Beverly Cleary's stories about Henry Higgins, this time with quite a lot of Beezus (and Ramona) tagging along. There were seven chapters, each containing a story about Henry:

1. Ribsby and the Roast - in which Ribsby steals someone's BBQ meat
2. Henry Gets Rich - in which everyone gets sick of bubble gum
3. The Untraining of Ribsby - in which Ribsby UNlearns to fetch newspapers
4. Henry Parks His Dog - in which Henry gets an odd traffic violation
5. Beezus Makes a Bid - in which Beezus helps Henry procure a bike
6. Henry's Bargain Bike - in which Henry must fix up said bike
7. The Boy who Ate Dog Food - in which Henry finally has a bout of luck. And eats some dog food, of course...

They were all very cute and would make for great bedtime stories for kids—especially for boys who like dogs!
