



Some Assembly Required

Brian Lynch , Edwardian Taylor (Illustrations)

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Playing is serious business.

Welcome to Toy Academy: where toys learn to play. This is where action figures train to battle, stuffed animals study the art of the hug, and collectibles practice standing very, very still.

Though Grumbolt isn't really any of those things, he's determined to fit in. But when the *Evil* Toy Academy threatens to bring down his school, it's up to Grumbolt to go where no good toy has gone before and prove he's truly a great toy after all.

This laugh-out-loud chapter book by Brian Lynch, the writer of *Minions* and a writer of *The Secret Life of Pets*, is a classic in the making.

Some Assembly Required Details

Date : Published December 26th 2017 by Scholastic Press

ISBN : 9781338148459

Author : Brian Lynch , Edwardian Taylor (Illustrations)

Format : Hardcover 192 pages

Genre : Childrens, Juvenile, Fiction



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From Reader Review Some Assembly Required for online ebook

Bari says

This is adorable and a fun read. This book will appeal to fans of the movie Toy Story or Monsters Inc. The author, Brian Lynch, has also written several screenplays, including Puss in Boots, Minions, Despicable Me: Minion Mayhem and The Secret Life of Pets both #1 and #2

Short chapters, high adventure and a fast pace make this especially appealing for reluctant readers.

Brendan Creecy says

This was a super fun read and suitable for all ages. The illustrations are wonderful and Lynch's humor is a delight for both kids and adults. Can't wait for the next one!

Mrs Mommy Booknerd <http://mrsmommybooknerd.blogspot.com> says

I loved this book. I laughed out loud and was taken on a wild ride with this unusual cast of toys. I was rooting for Grumbolt from the start and could relate to the struggles he faced. I think most kids will be able to relate and that is why this book will be a HUGE hit. I thought this book was both clever and original. I want all kids to read this book because it illustrates that we may not always know what we are supposed to do or who we really are and that is OK. We just need to live our lives, be kind and stand up for what is right. I adored this book and I highly recommend it. Thanks to Scholastic for providing me a free copy for review.

Camille Caliman says

I loved it. The illustrations were cute (I just loved Salt and Pepper) and the story was nice too. Didn't really see the villain coming and I was sure a certain party was involved.

I can't wait to read the next one.

Grace Coles says

I think this would make a great book for younger children who aren't as interested in reading as playing with their toys. Books can sometimes be boring, especially for young readers and reading a book about toys would make reading so much more enjoyable. Even though I am in 8th grade and wouldn't pick this book as my first choice, but I could defiantly see any kid wanting to read this. Kids have an amazing imagination and having them read this book would bring their imagination to a further level. Even as an older reader, I still enjoyed the illustrations on almost every page so I guarantee kids in younger ages would love looking at the pictures to go along with the story. A lot of lessons came out of the story that I even thought were beneficial to me now in my life.

Neil Sarver says

I've followed Brian Lynch's career, to one extent or another, since he was putting "Angry Naked Pat" comics online, so it was exciting to have this book to share with my son, who is indeed about the right age for it, and a fan of both *Minions* and *Secret Life of Pets*. It was good enough that I considered reading to the end after he fell asleep each night, but I decided I really wanted to share the experience of reading it a bit each night together. I'm glad I did. It's a charming book, and we had a lot of fun reading it together.

Nicola says

Very exciting, this is something of a first for us. We have previously read a highly abridged illustrated chapter book of 'Alice in Wonderland' but that was a little different as we'd read other picture book versions first and watched the animated movie many times. This was simply a random pick at the library so that Miss 3 could have her very own 'grown up' book and stop stealing my library books off my high library-book shelf.

Our library classifies it as 'Step 5' (whatever that means) and I imagine it's aimed as an early chapter book reader for 6-8 year olds. Miss 3 adores books and has a long concentration span for them; I've been reading it to her for 20 minutes or so each night. There are plenty of illustrations which I think helps - as does the subject matter. She loves Grumbolt (she has decided that he's a bunny) and I love that Brian Lynch wrote a kids book! There are plenty of '80s jokes for parents that are reading it (like Omnibus Squared - Optimus Prime - complaining about his arthritis as he transforms).

Beth says

This book was chosen by one of our junior book club members. It was a cute, easy read and I think it would serve as a great transition for younger readers who are ready to move into something a little bit more while sticking with simple, relatable themes.

zapkode says

{My thoughts} – Grumbolt isn't your ordinary toy. He is a stuffed critter that was created out of an advanced sewing pattern that ended up turning into an awkward project result. Grumbolt didn't look like the pattern he was meant to look like and because of that the girl that had created him by following the pattern had tossed him into the trash. She didn't want a stuffed critter that didn't look anything like the package had claimed it should.

Grumbolt ends up going on an adventure and trying to find out who or what he is. In the middle of that adventure he meets some other discarded toys that help him to find his way to the Toy Academy. The Toy Academy is suppose to help and teach toys the things that they need to know in order to be successful toys for children.

While he is attending the Toy Academy some questionable things start to take place. These things cause Grumbolt and everyone else to question many of the other students. If you'd like to know what happens you'll need to read the book.

I found this book to be a quick and fun read. I think that any child could fall in love with the character of Grumbolt, because he is just a lovable character in my opinion. If you have a child that enjoys movies like the Toy Story Series, I am sure they will fall fastly in love with this book series.

TheReadandSeek says

First Sentence:

"The small toy sat up in the garbage can and smiled."

Last Sentence:

""...And that's okay.""

This was such a fun book to read with my nephew. Full of illustrations and characters that it was hard not to love it.

Kerry says

My 7 year-old son and I read this book together and he greatly enjoyed it. The characters were interesting and unusual, and the plot was well considered. He's been asking about the sequel for months.

He enjoyed this book so much, in fact, he asked if we could make his own Grumbolt. It turned out pretty well, but not perfect; my son said that made it even more authentic, since the character himself is flawed.

Really looking forward to the next installment.

Steph says

I'm thinking this is better as an audiobook because I laughed out loud listening to it even though I'm about twenty years older than most middle grade readers.

It's predictable and not overly mature, but it's also really fun and my kids are gonna LOVE IT. :-)

3.5 stars

Engel Dreizehn says

If you are familiar with the humour of the Minions...you know how this is going to turn out. For an early

reader book, it was surprising tongue in cheek in terms of humour, for example poking fun at toy trends through out the ages (hehe veggie warriors), vintage collector's toys fretting over being in pristine condition and liken the zany-unique premise of the toy academy world. I also like via Grumbolt's story...being unique isn't so bad and can be an advantage.

Maggie says

Grumbolt is a sew toy, and an incredibly unique one at that. He has two different arms, a big head, two different ears, and a funky pattern. Because he is not your typical plush toy, he is quickly discarded. Grumbolt meets Omnibus Squared, an action figure, who takes him to toy academy, where Grumbolt learns what it really means to be a toy. This is a great chapter book for children around 8-10 who seem to be more interested in toys than reading. Why not combine the two? This book is funny, easy to read, and tells a heartwarming story of acceptance, and overcoming obstacles.

Questions to ask children:

What is it about you that makes you unique?

What makes a good toy?

Are toys more about looks or the memories you can make with them?

If you were a toy like the ones in the book, what would you do when the humans left the room?

Would you be able to convince the humans that you weren't alive?

Lynch, B. (2018). Toy Academy: Some assembly required. New York: Scholastic Press.

Deb says

I won this book on Goodreads for my grandson. It was an awesome book, that I can't wait to read to him. Grumbolt was so cute, and even though he was different he kept trying. He didn't let the other toys remarks put him down. In the end he came out the hero. So cute, hats off to Brian Lynch for a very good kids book.
