



The Candy Smash

Jacqueline Davies

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Jessie and Evan Treski have waged a lemonade war, sought justice in a class trial, and even unmasked a bell thief. Now they are at opposite ends over the right to keep secrets. Evan believes some things (such as his poetry) are private. Jessie believes scandal makes good news. When anonymously sent candy hearts appear in Class 4-0, self-appointed ace reporter Jessie determines to get the scoop on class crushes. ?

The Candy Smash Details

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Author : Jacqueline Davies

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From Reader Review The Candy Smash for online ebook

MaoMeow1035 says

4th to 6th grade review

This book is the 4th book in the series(you should probably know that)so i would recommend reading the others first. In this book, somebody starts giving away candy hearts causing Jessie to want to figure out who is sending them as a new front cover page of her newspaper.

Lisa says

I didn't enjoy the last (3rd) book in this series as much, however this one was right back up in quality, in my opinion. I really enjoyed reading about Evan and Jessie's class and the Valentine's Day mysteries. Jessie is a great example of how some people just can't "read" others well and how social situations can become awkward for them when they can't pick up on cues and such. It's also interesting to see the maturation of the 'kids in 4-O' and how they are dealing with changing feelings. I look forward to reading the next (and I believe last) book.

Kristen says

This is the only book in the Lemonade Wars series that I've read, and it was okay. A cute, quick read suited for upper-elementary students and reluctant readers. I love sensitive Evan--particularly how he treats his Alzheimers-ridden grandmother--but Jessie wasn't all that likable (to me, anyway.) She's a bit like a child-sized Sheldon Cooper, whom I enjoy, but I was annoyed by Jessie rather than entertained.

Becky says

The fourth book in Jacqueline Davies Lemonade War series brings us to February in Jessie and Evan Treski's fourth grade year. Apparently after returning to school, Jessie decided to start a classroom newspaper. The Candy Smash is ALL about Jessie working very hard as a journalist and reporter as she tries to figure out the ethics of publishing. For example, if Jessie *knows* that someone like-likes someone, should she report it? Perhaps if Jessie herself were to have a crush, she'd know the answer to that one. But boys, well, they just don't interest her yet. Evan, on the other hand, well, he is definitely interested in one particular girl. (He has been since The Lemonade War!)

The Candy Smash isn't all about journalism. The teacher has started a poetry unit. While some students like hearing and discussing the poems each class day, Evan happens to love it. He tries not to let his love show too much, of course. But Evan's big secret: HE LOVES POETRY. And at home, behind his unlocked "locked" door (there's a sign on the door) he writes poetry of his own. For someone who has struggled with school, Evan's newly discovered gift with words is pure blessing.

The books have been getting more serious as the series progresses. In the Candy Smash, readers learn that Grandma has come to stay with them. I was very relieved to learn that she would not be left on her own. Also, Jessie has started thinking a LOT about her father whom she hasn't seen in over a year. Readers learn

that HE is a journalist, that he travels all over the world. I knew, of course, that their mother is a single mom, divorced, but this is the first mention that I can recall revealing details about the dad.

Samantha says

In this fourth book in the Lemonade War series Valentine's Day is approaching and there's love in the air and a juicy mystery to be solved. Who's been giving everyone in class boxes of candy hearts with personalized messages? And who drew a heart in the girls bathroom professing their love for Evan Treski? Jessie, the self-appointed roving reporter, is determined to find out.

Meanwhile, the class is studying poetry and Evan finds he REALLY likes it, but is embarrassed to admit it. He tries his hand at writing a few poems and creates some true masterpieces, but is reluctant to share them with anyone.

This series is so well written. The characterization is top notch and the author excels at exploring a child's feelings ranging from family relationships to school friendships and everything in between.

The inclusion of poetry in this book was well done. Many fine examples of poetry were shared by some well known poets like e.e. cummings and Sylvia Plath. Highly recommended for grades 3-5.

Ellie says

Jessie can't find a big news story. Then then she finds out that Megan her friend wrote in the bathroom, M.M.+E.T. Megan also gave out the candy hearts and Jessie put it in the news. Later Evan told her it wasn't a good idea. But what my whole point is later Jessie makes a very good newspaper at the end. I enjoyed that. I am a fourth grader and I recommend this book to all 4th graders.

A says

Book #4 in the Lemonade War Series. Really cuts story. Enjoyable read! Good read for 4-5th graders, but younger readers enjoyed having this book read to them. Lexile 730 - Reading Counts:8 Points

Lisa Fabiano says

The latest book in the Lemonade War series involves secrets, crushes and a mystery. Jessie and Evan are learning about poetry in school. Evan has a knack for it but Jessie does not get it, instead she is focused on the class newspaper. As Valentine's Day approaches, little candy hearts start to appear in everyone's desk. Who is leaving the candy hearts and why does Jessie want to conduct a class survey?

Ana Paula says

I personally like this book very much. I could clearly understand what the author was trying to tell their readers and what message the author wanted to tell. I loved what the story was based on.

Miss Sarah says

This series continues to introduce relevant and tough topics to kids in creative ways. Evan and Jessie have hit Valentine's day in their school year and Jessie is having a hard time with the concept of kids liking one another. Fun and fast paced Davies still manages to throw in some heartfelt moments like the students comforting the teacher

Joon Sung says

The Candy Smash

By: Jacqueline Davies

Review By: Joon Sung Oh

This book is about how Jessie and Evan Treski spent Valentines Day. They are siblings (Evan is a year older than Jessie), and they are both in forth grade (since Jessie skipped a grade), and go to Riverside Elementary School. In room 4-0 with Mrs. Overton, everything is going well with the year until a problem arises-there are rumors and conflicts by word spreading around in the school about crushes, until it all is solved by working them out with talks. Throughout the story, Jessie, the main character, creates a blockbuster newspaper for Valentines Day, but another problem arises-all of her pie charts and statistics were inaccurate (she divided the numbers by 26, not 27, which is the actual number of students in her class), and she did not have enough time to fix them in time for Valentines Day, so she took care of them during recess in time to share it with the class.

I liked how the author used a wide variety of vocabulary words as the name of the chapters. They helped widen my vocabulary. I found some to be particularly interesting! Also, I liked how the author wrote numerous similes, metaphors, and other types of figurative language, which made the book very intriguing and interesting to read. An example is, "But he couldn't think of a thing to say. It was as if every word in his brain had packed up and headed south to Florida for the winter." They really kept me reading! Finally, I loved how the author included several romantic, dramatic, peaceful, and detailed poems by many different authors, which contributed to the loving, peaceful, joyful, and sympathetic moods of Valentines Day. The author included the poem, Fog, by Carl Sandburg.

"The fog comes
on little cat feet.

It sits looking
over harbor and city
on silent haunches
and then moves on."

But my favorite poem is Hope, by Emily Dickinson.

""Hope" is the thing with feathers-
That perches in the soul-
And sings the tune without the words-
And never stops-at all-"

In conclusion, this is a book that is well worth reading. I enjoyed very much and would recommend it to all

middle school students that like books with twists and turns and new vocabulary that is defined (to help readers learn new words). Overall, I was always engaged in this book and would recommend it to everyone!

Gilbert Seaver says

One of the things I learned was to respect others feelings.I liked when Even finely realizes that his candy heart were the specialist of all.I liked Even because he is a lot like me. I would recomend this book to kids at the age of 11 or 12!

Samantha Buchheit says

So I was rereading this book as well and wow! There was a lot of stuff I never noticed about it! Although the characters are all eight and nine year olds, I totally forgot all about it while reading. The book tackles topics like autism in an amazing way. I would actually recommend this to anyone!

Sharie says

Another book in the Lemonade Wars series. Such a good series for the Elementary Youth. And this one really does a good job teaching kids about how to be kind to each other.

Amanda says

I'm sounding like a broken record at this point, but I'm still surprised and impressed with this series -- and this book might be the best of them all so far. Each book has a learning theme (Bk. 1: math, Bk. 2: law, etc.), and this one's is poetry. Even though there are important lessons in these books, they're woven so well into the story that they're not a turn-off. In addition to introducing kids to elements of poetry in an approachable way, this book also has some great insights on crushes, emotional intelligence, and social awareness.
