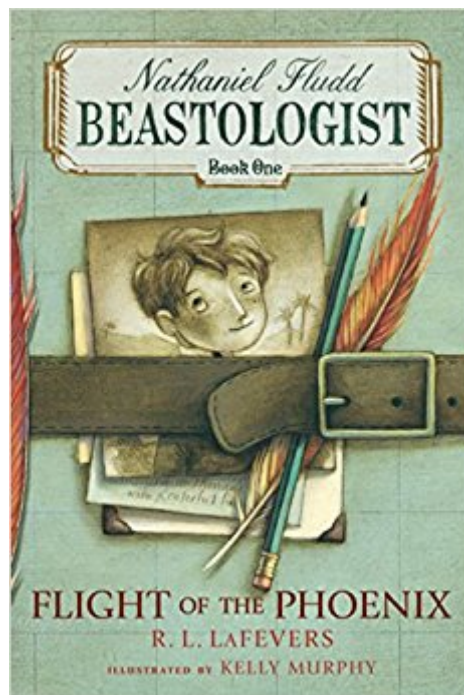




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Flight Of The Phoenix (Nathaniel Fludd, Beastologist) (Nathaniel Fludd, Beastologist)



Synopsis

Nathaniel Fludd's life has taken a turn for the worst. With his parents lost at sea, he lands on the doorstep of a distant cousin—the world's last remaining beastologist. Soon Nate is whisked off on his first expedition, to Arabia, where the world's only phoenix prepares to lay its new egg. When disaster strikes, Nate quickly finds himself all alone. Will he be able to see the phoenix safely hatched, keep his accidental pet gremlin out of trouble, and rescue his guardian from the Bedouin? If he fails, nothing will stand between the world's mythical creatures and extinction. Too bad Nate's not the sort of boy who enjoys adventure . . . yet.

Book Information

Series: Nathaniel Fludd, Beastologist (Book 1)

Paperback: 144 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; Reprint edition (September 13, 2010)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.4 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 59 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #152,270 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #46 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Middle East #207 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Orphans & Foster Homes #360 in Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Dragons

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

Customer Reviews

Grade 3—5—This is a solid start to a new series. Ten-year-old Nathaniel Fludd's parents have been off on an adventure for three years and are now, in 1928, declared lost at sea at the North Pole. Thus begin Nate's own escapades as he goes to live with his Aunt Phil A. Fludd in Batting-at-the-Flies and learn the family business of mapmaking and beastology. Even though Nate has always resisted adventure, he now finds himself meeting an extraordinary talking dodo bird and talking gremlins, and he and Aunt Phil fly to Arabia to oversee the birth of a phoenix. When his aunt

is taken by the Bedouin, Nate must summon his courage to protect the phoenix and save her. The story is packed with adventure and mythological creatures. Children who love fantasy, myth, exotic settings, and even a little dose of history will relate to Nate as he discovers his inner hero and carries on the Fludd family tradition. The characters are strongly developed and the period illustrations done in line, including some of Nate's own sketches, enhance the tale. A quick and enriching read that will appeal to a wide variety of children. --Jane Cronkhite, San Jose Public Library, CA

END --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

". . . this American author has crafted an exciting tale. Straightforward sentences, chronological narrative, short chapters and Murphy's plentiful black-and-white illustrations make this appropriate for middle-grade readers looking for a series to grow with."--Kirkus

Reviews -- "LaFevers (the Theodosia books) gets the Nathaniel Fludd, Beastologist series off to a sprightly start with this wry story introducing a 10-year-old orphaned when his parents' airship crashes in the North Pole in 1928 . . . this quick-paced adventure . . . should entice kids to return for Nate's next escapade."--Publishers Weekly

I gave this series to my daughter for Christmas. She's a bright girl, advanced for her age. This would be appropriate for a similar child, or maybe age 7 above, for an average child. The vocabulary and writing style are nice; there is no talking down to the audience and we spent some time discussing what new words meant (we enjoy this opportunity from books). The plot of this book (and others in the series) is great - with each one, we first researched the type of 'beast' so that we were understanding what we were reading about, and then my daughter proceeded to get fully engaged as I read aloud to her (and argued quite defiantly when it was time to conclude a chapter and go to bed). Also, my daughter can be very sensitive, and there were very few parts of this book that she would have deemed "too scary." We have almost torn through all four books since Christmas, and I look forward to trying out the Theodosia books next.

* My rating is 3.5 stars.*I absolutely love R.L. LaFevers' Theodosia Throckmorton books. Both Theodosia and the Serpents of Chaos and Theodosia and the Staff of Osiris have a permanent place on my bookshelf. I pre-ordered Flight of the Phoenix months ago and have been looking forward to it with great anticipation. Perhaps that anticipation backfired just a little.I'll admit, in Flight of the Phoenix, I was expecting a male version of Theodosia with her quirkiness, her wit and resourcefulness - and that's not what I got. However, that's not a fair basis for a review and I only

include the information for others who might have the same expectations I did. On to the story I did get... :-)

Flight of the Phoenix introduces us to Nathaniel Fludd, a newly orphaned boy who barely knew his always traveling parents and who has lived a quiet, very ordinary (and rather dull) life with Miss Lumpton, who acted as his de facto guardian while his parents traveled. In the opening pages, Nate learns that his parents have been lost at sea and that he will be going to live with an aunt - Philomena Fludd - whom he has never met and didn't know existed. In short order, Nate arrives at Phil's home, meets a talking dodo bird and is told to get his things together as he will be accompanying his aunt on her newest adventure. For that, it turns out, is what Fludd's do; they are adventurers, mapmakers and beastologists - men and women who study creatures that most of the world thinks are mythological. And, in Phil's opinion, it is high time Nate joins the family business.

Flight of the Phoenix is a well constructed story with a limited cast of fairly well-drawn characters and attractive black and white illustrations by Kelly Murphy. Nate is very likable and kids will enjoy watching him come out of his shell. As is expected with the first volume in a planned series, a number of foreshadowing plot points were peppered in to start building curiosity and interest in future entries. I'd love to see LaFevers do more with the historical 1928 time frame and with background on the settings, both of which I thought were lacking in this story. There's a wealth of material there and, IMHO, giving readers more in those areas will broaden the appeal of the series.

Flight of the Phoenix is a very fast read and should work well as a read-aloud to children 4 or older and as an early chapter book for kids reading on their own. While I felt Flight of the Phoenix lacked the magic of the Theodosia books, it was an enjoyable little read and I'll be sharing it with my grandkids.

I loved this book so much because of all of the adventure and excitement for a kid it's a little higher level but honestly it wasn't so bad I recommend this book for higher level readers in third grade and I can't wait to read the next. Book in the series

I purchased this for my 8 year old son. I read it in advance of him and it was a quick read for me, but I found it very entertaining and a good story that also has some educational points about animals and creative thinking. There is also a small glossary in the back of the book with definitions of words that a kid might not be totally familiar with, which I thought was a nice touch. I would recommend it to boys who are reading chapter books (grades 2-4 probably) It is nice to have a series for young boys that is positive and not loaded with bathroom humor.

Nice packaging and fast delivery and good condition and good strong packing tape and not heavy at all and easy to open with that little pull strip and recoiled material and the book had page numbers and an index and a front cover and back cover and a nice easy to read font and pages that turned really easy and not stuck together and a good shape that fit in my book case and that's about it.

When Nathaniel learns the his parents are declared lost his Nanny and family Lawyer happily turns over his custody to his eccentric aunt. It is then that his life gets really interesting and he is off to find a Phoenix. The story moves along at a brisk pace and although simple never drags. The books are short and end with another book just waiting to be read. This is a very good choice for boy and girls who may need encouragement to read.

I teach fourth grade and decided to read this book aloud to my class...they were hooked by chapter three. We ended up reading all the books in the series. As soon as I finished one book, the kids begged for the next! I even had parents email me to say that they were so happy their child was interested the stories that they purchased the books to read again at home. I had many 'non-readers' in my class, so these books were a great success.

I purchased this book for my 9 year old son as a Christmas present in 2009. I had read her "Theodosia" books and really enjoyed them. When I saw that she was starting a series with a young boy as the main character I knew my son would be interested. It's a nice change from the "Tree House" series he had been reading. After reading it he decided his younger brother who cannot yet read needed to hear the story so he read it aloud to him. We are anxiously awaiting the next book in the series, and we recommend this book very highly.

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