

Seven Wherewithal Way: Book 1

By Samantha-Ellen Bound

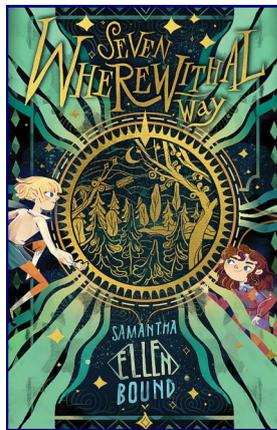
Publisher: Affirm Press

ISBN 9781922419224 SCIS: 5375862

\$17.99

Blurb:

Ferdinand fell out of the sky on the hottest day of the year, while Celeste and Esmerelda Barden were on the front porch eating ice-cream. Celeste is having the worst summer ever. Her parents are off on an adventure and she's stuck at Gran's house with her annoying little sister, Esme, and strict instructions to be responsible. Or, as Esme says, boring. So when their eccentric cousin Ferd crash-lands a flying bus in the yard, what choice does Celeste have but to follow Ferd back home to Seven Wherewithal Way? Wherewithal - Ferd's house, and the gateway to the many Realms unreachable from Earth - is bursting with magic and mystery and otherworldly creatures. It's Celeste's favourite place in any world. But when something tries to break in through the portal in the pantry - the door to the mystical Realm of Forests - Celeste learns that both Wherewithal and her beloved cousin are under threat. If Celeste wants to save her cousin, their home, its inhabitants and possibly even all the Realms, she is going to have to find her adventurous side. Fast. Full of heart-in-your-mouth action, unforgettable characters and folklore-inspired magic that feels both fresh and familiar, *Seven Wherewithal Way* is the unputdownable first book in an epic portal fantasy series.



Lamont Review:

Celeste is expecting a pretty boring and unadventurous summer, spent at her Grandmother's house. But this all changes when her cousin Ferd lands in his flying bus in their front yard.

Ferd takes Celeste and her younger sister Esme on an incredible journey through portals into different realms.

Danger lurks in every corner, as do incredible monsters and hazards to stop them from keeping the realms in order...

To confront the danger in the Realms will take courage. But can the normally reserved Celeste find her adventurous side, and enough courage to succeed?

This is a fast-paced, action-packed adventure that is full of good natured humour. With themes of courage, adventure, family, tradition and doing the right thing, this is a terrific middle grade novel, best suited to upper primary and lower secondary readers.

Reviewed by Rob

My Brother Ben

By Peter Carnavas

Publisher: University of Queensland Press

ISBN 9780702263330 SCIS: 5374071

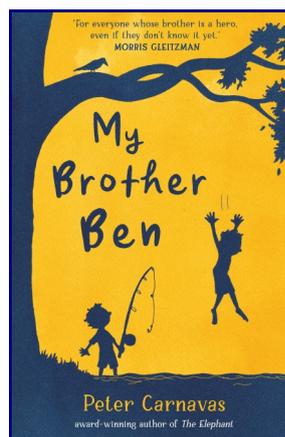
\$14.99

Blurb:

Luke and his big brother Ben spend the summer on the banks of Cabbage Tree Creek. Quiet Luke sketches birds, while Ben leaps off the Jumping Tree. The boys couldn't be more different but they share the same dream: winning a boat so they can explore the creek properly.

Then Ben starts high school and the boys drift apart. When Luke catches Ben sneaking out at night, he knows his brother's up to something, but what?

A timeless story of birds and boats, and of brotherly love that is bigger than a wedge-tailed eagle, bigger than the sky.



Lamont Review:

Quiet, bird loving Luke is in awe of his heroic big brother Ben. They adventure together on the banks of the local creek, but both dream of one day exploring further in a boat of their own.

Luke is coming to terms with changes. Changes like their Dad, who he refuses to speak to, moving to Perth a year ago, as well as Ben now being in high school and growing away from him.

Will the binds of brotherhood keep them together?

My Brother Ben is a beautiful story with a wonderful Australian setting, that is filled with themes of family, adventure, bird watching, and brotherhood that will be loved by upper primary and lower secondary students, and all those that just love a beautiful story as well.

Reviewed by Rob

Teacher Notes prepared by the publisher are available for this title on our website.