



## Henry and the Clubhouse

*Beverly Cleary , Tracy Dockray (Illustrations)*

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Fiery Ramona Quimby and the well-meaning Henry Huggins may clash, but in this delightful and hilariously told novel by Newbery Medal-winning author Beverly Cleary, an unlikely compromise wins the day.

Henry and his friends are building a no-girls-allowed clubhouse. With a private space of their own away from everyone else—and even a top secret entry password—they're all thrilled with their boy fort. But Henry's about to find out that nothing—not even a sign—will keep gutsy Ramona out of their clubhouse...and her retaliation may just ruin Henry's newspaper career.

## Henry and the Clubhouse Details

Date : Published March 18th 2014 by HarperCollins (first published 1962)

ISBN : 9780380709151

Author : Beverly Cleary , Tracy Dockray (Illustrations)

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Genre : Childrens, Fiction, Realistic Fiction

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## **From Reader Review Henry and the Clubhouse for online ebook**

### **Michelle says**

A Beverly Cleary classic. Just the right length audio book.

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### **Rebecca says**

Henry books are not as endearing as the Ramona series. Through Henry's eyes, Ramona is nothing more than a pest. I admire his pluck and his work ethic, and I'm happy to report that Henry is not as sexist as he was in Henry and Ribsy. Once again, though, I was bothered that a 1962 book got re-illustrated in 2007. So a kid who rides in a bathtub tied to a trailer hitched to a car . . . wears a bicycle helmet on his paper route?! Either make the drawings historically accurate or strive for a kind of vague agelessness! So many details tie this story to its era; I'm not sure why the drawings can't reflect that.

I started reading this out loud to my seven-year-old, but she ended up reading the last chapters on her own. (I then had to finish it myself, so I could review it in good conscience!)

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### **Karalynn Tyler says**

The kids loved listening to me read this out loud. Cleary's books are classic and they should be a part of every childhood.

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### **ABC says**

I was planning to give this four stars, but by the end of the book, I loved it so much that I decided to give it five stars. I knew there was a reason Beverly Cleary was my favorite author when I was kid. It is not actually not that much about the clubhouse--it is more about the paper route and dealing with Beezus and Ramona. I just love Henry's resourcefulness and can-do attitude.

Some things will seem outdated but hey, it was written in 1962. Back in the days when it was actually conceivable than an adult would allow a kid to ride in a bathtub tied to a trailer.

EDITED TO ADD: I miss the old illustrations. However, I can understand why they decided to update the illustrations. BUT!!!!!!! Why, oh, why is it stil an all-white world that Henry lives in? There is nothing in Cleary's books that say all the characters are white. It just doesn't make sense.

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### **Thomasin says**

Four stars BECAUSE the book allowed some good conversation about Halloween costumes (culture is not a costume!) and the "no girls allowed" rule.

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### **Natelle says**

Reading a book geared toward young children offers many advantages. First, it clears away some of the darkness from reading fiction geared towards adults, particularly if one enjoys crime and horror novels. Second, limited time doesn't pose as much of an issue since chapters can be read quickly in those few moments of alone time that life allows. Third, when one has children, it reminds us of the wonder and joy in the simplest moments of childhood. That being said, I enjoyed reading about Henry, his dog, and his friends as they built a clubhouse and enjoyed the learning experiences that come with it. And, of course, Beverly Cleary allowed us to see a little more of Ramona Quimby's vivacious personality through the eyes of her neighbor.

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### **Amahla says**

Funny book but there are some now politically incorrect moments like Henry dressing up as an Indian for halloween. It was written in the 1960's.

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### **Michael says**

Paper routes, free-range children, writing letters to a TV show, all completely foreign today, yet there is great wholesome humor here that often operates on three or more levels. There's funny stuff for the little kids (Ramona's age), older kids (Henry & Beezus), and then for adults. My first revisit to Bev. Cleary books as an adult was delightful. Portland people get street name Easter eggs, also get to marvel at the idea of a 11-year-old using the city bus system independently .

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### **Heather says**

Another good Henry book. We listened to the audio cds for this one, and it was well done. The boys loved the narrator's voice portrayal of Ramona. Now we all quote, in the reader's Ramona voice, "His name's not Harry Higgins! It's Henry Huggins!"

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### **Eunyoung says**

Another classic by the beloved children's book author, Beverly Cleary!

I read this a long time- probably in elementary school but you can never go wrong re-reading Beverly Cleary's books. While there are so many current children's books out now that are great, there's something to be said about Beverly Cleary's books. Mainly, I think it's because they seem so wholesome- for lack of a better word. She write about a time when kids had paper routes and wrote letters by hand (and not texting on their phones or computers) and looked up words in an actual dictionary (not computer spell check!)

Was it just me or was anyone else impressed by Henry and his two friends building a clubhouse from scratch? I barely know what materials I would need to fix a door never mind a clubhouse complete with windowpanes and door on hinges!

This book's main character is Henry Huggins but the lovable Ramona makes her presence known throughout the book. Her antics make me laugh aloud. I probably think she's adorable because I don't have to be responsible for her! She would probably drive me insane as she does Henry, her sister Beezus and her mother among others :)

I think this book should also include Henry's paper route. It feels like it's more about his paper route than his clubhouse.

Beverly Cleary makes it easy to love her books and the illustrations are also fantastic! I always want to be a little kid again after reading her books.

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### **Libby says**

I read this out loud to my 6-year-old son and my 4-year old daughter occasionally listened, but wasn't as enthralled by it as some others we have read. My son did pay attention, but I felt he also wasn't as interested as others.

I think this is a book for a very confident young reader, as the entire book was only 6 chapters long and each chapter was about 30+ pages - much too long for a reader new to chapter books. This was not a page-turner, in that each chapter sort of had its own plot that wrapped up by the end. I wish I had known this was #5 in a series that we had only read #1 of. I just picked another one with Henry in the title by Cleary, that the library had at the time. I also have "Henry and Ribsy", which we are going to read next, but if it's no better than this one, we probably won't read any more "Henry books".

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### **Christina says**

I was never a big fan of the Ramona books, but the Henry Huggins books are just delightful. In this particular book, Henry decides to build a clubhouse. He finances the clubhouse through creative thinking and his beloved paper route and builds it with a couple of his friends, one of whom insists that there are "No Girls Allowed!" in the clubhouse. Henry somewhat reluctantly goes along with this, which has some interesting consequences for him. I found the ending of this particular Henry Huggins book especially satisfying, and the kids love Henry and Ribsy as much as I do. When we finished, they were clamoring to go back and read the whole set again!

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## **Stacy says**

Henry decides that building clubhouse is a good idea, has to learn how to sell newspaper subscriptions, and ends up having Ramona be "his little shadow" - she wants to be a paper boy one day, too. Neil Patrick Harris narrates and does a great job.

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## **Blaire Malkin says**

Henry decides to build a clubhouse with his friends and has to balance working on that with his paper route. Ramona decides to follow Henry on his paper route and he must cope with this as well. He learns to value both beezus and Ramona. There's also a running joke about a mistaken name that cracked my 6 yo up every time.

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## **Kate says**

Review from an eight-year-old:

"This is a book about a clubhouse and no girls allowed. Someone locked Henry inside on purpose because of this. I like the book because Henry and I have a lot in common and it's a funny story. My favorite part was when Henry got his name in the newspaper. I would rate this book 6 stars- the best!"

8/5/13

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## **Ginnie says**

My favorite part in this book is when Henry grows five inches taller in 5 minutes. I love the Klickitat Street kids. Planning a reread of the 2 series very soon!

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## **Roland Coffey says**

It was great!

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## **Judy says**

As part of My Big Fat Reading Project, I am reading my way through Beverly Cleary's books. The Henry series are for young readers aged 8-12.

Good old Henry, the youngest paper boy in town, decides to build a clubhouse in his backyard, along with

his friends Robert and Murph. But Murph doesn't like girls so he insists it be a "Boys Only" clubhouse.

Henry as usual is juggling multiple problems: One of his good friends is Beezus, who is a girl. He has to keep his paper route going while also working on building the clubhouse. The paper route includes collecting from customers and he is trying to get up the guts to sign up new customers.

Then there is Ramona, the troublesome younger sister of Beezus. She begins following Henry around on his route. Then one day she locks him in the clubhouse and won't let him out until her tells her the secret password. He has to get out so he can do his route that day.

Henry's number one worry is that he wants his father to be proud of him. He bungles his way through and comes out a winner all around.

What I liked best about this one is the way it shows how much kids worry. Harry Potter is a top worrier in children's fiction but here Henry takes second place as the world's most worried boy.

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## **Devon Flaherty says**

The Henry Huggins series of books by Beverly Cleary. They are, in chronological order, Henry Huggins (1950), Henry and Beezus (1952), Henry and Ribsy (1954), Henry and the Paper Route (1957), Henry and the Clubhouse (1962), and Ribsy. The Henry Huggins series contains the Ribsy series and meshes with the Ramona series.

For our second--and the second largest--character series by Cleary, we moved from Ramona to Henry and his beloved dog, Ribsy. The first scene introduces Ribsy and he appears in all the books, more or less prominent.

We were once again drawn into life on Klickitat Street in 1950s Oregon. We were once again lulled and charmed by the simple writing, the realistic characters, and the small things of suburban life. While we did enjoy the series, we found it did not quite live up to the Ramona series.

## **HENRY HUGGINS SERIES**

A couple complaints: too many adverbs (those pesky, oft-unnecessary -ly words), and sometimes Huggins is a butthead. Yes, he is a little boy and little boys are often buttheads, but my kids were surprised by Henry's internal dialogues and how annoyed he is by anyone who gets in his way. He wouldn't act out, but he'd sure think some mean things. (Of course, this is all relative to the time period and place we are reading about. His being a butthead is nothing compared to some more modern characters and situations my kids might read about.)

Also, Ramona is not entirely consistent with her character in her namesake series. Just a warning: you aren't going to fall in love with Ramona laterally.

I honestly don't know if I have much more to say. Huggins was nice, but it was no Ramona. Cleary is nice, but she's at her best with Ramona. Read Ramona first, and if you want to stay in that world, try Huggins. Our favorite was Henry and the Clubhouse.

\*\*\*REVIEW WRITTEN FOR THE STARVING ARTIST BLOG\*\*\*

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**Brandee Shafer says**

Super entertaining and very heartwarming in terms of Henry's relationship with his parents. My favorite part is the bit in which Mrs. Huggins takes over Henry's paper route for a minute...and what Henry has to say about it. I laughed and laughed. And then I felt a little like crying. All of my little kids loved this on audio.

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