

Riddle Gully Runaway

Jen Banyard

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When junior reporter Pollo implicates the Mayor's nephew in a spate of local robberies, she sets in train a series of mishaps that only she, her friend Will and her faithful sheep sidekick Shorn Connery can set to rights.

Riddle Gully Runaway Details

Date : Published July 1st 2014 by FREMANTLE PRESS (first published January 1st 2014)

ISBN: 9781922089878

Author: Jen Banyard

Format: Paperback 180 pages

Genre:

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From Reader Review Riddle Gully Runaway for online ebook

Claire Miller says

I represent the publisher

John Burbidge says

Jen Banyard has done it again! Filled with surprise, suspense and a colourful cast of quirky characters, Riddle Gully Runaway continues the saga of Pollo and Will and their faithful ovine companion, Shorn Connery, to the delight of young readers of all ages.

Combining her sleuthing and reporting skills, the young Pollo has her eye on a newcomer to town, Benson Bragg. Based on a chance sighting and gut instinct, she decides that he is responsible for a series of jewellery thefts and announces this, albeit tangentially, in her newspaper column.

But as we often discover in life, things are not always what they seem at first glance, and we are sometimes wiser not to be so quick to judgement. As the story unravels, Pollo discovers the error of her ways and tries to make amends, but not before becoming snarled in a few other tangles along the way.

Banyard's ability to tell a simple but intriguing story, with injections of humour and moments of self-reflection, make her an excellent children's author. This may have something to do with the fact that she is practising her craft with the maturity of an author in middle age who has raised her own children and dealt with the many challenges life has sent her way.

Moreover, her own ebullient spirit comes bubbling through in her characters and their youthful, no-nonsense dialogue. Banyard's ability and delight in engaging with young readers, as she often does in schools and other groups, is evident in the energy she brings to her writing.

Let's hope that the three books she has already published in this genre are just the beginning of a long series.

Sandi Parsons says

Favourite Quote: They would have blended right in if they hadn't been accompanied by a sheep.

Pollo di Nozi is back, doing what she does best – sniffing out stories and jumping to conclusions. When Pollo is faced with the awful truth that her reporting skills have forced Benson to leave town, she knows that she is the only person who can fix this mistake. With skilful narration and humour Banyard weaves another rollicking adventure starring Pollo, Will and the love-struck Shorn Connery.