



## Grabber

*Chris d'Lacey*

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There's a burglar on the loose in Scrubbley! What will happen when he steals one of the Wayward Crescent dragons? Will Grabber become a robber too?

## Grabber Details

Date : Published 2010 by Orchard

ISBN : 9781408302354

Author : Chris d'Lacey

Format : Hardcover 123 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Dragons, Fiction, Childrens, Juvenile

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# From Reader Review Grabber for online ebook

## Marybeth says

I bought my first Chris D'lacey book at a yard sale and read it in one setting, after I finished the series for Adults (I think that this series is a great one for young teens, especially boys) then I heard about the books for Kids, so I bought them all. I love to give my grand-kids books for Christmas. The Kids love them all. Especially this one, Grabber.

I really enjoyed reading them. I would call this style an early Fantasy.

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## Laura says

Even though I wasn't too impressed with the last one of these that I read when I came across the last two that I haven't yet read in the library I decided to read them as they wouldn't take long and I could then say I'd read them all.

Again I wasn't impressed by this book. I don't remember if Grabber was in the main series at all, but I suspect that he wasn't. This means that the story really was an aside to the series and didn't really add anything to the whole storyline.

I'm not really sure what the moral of this story was supposed to be. Possibly that stealing is bad, but I'm not sure that message really came off, other than Liz explaining to Lucy that they'll have to teach Grabber not to steal anymore.

Overall this book was a bit of a disappointment and therefore only receives only two stars.

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## Helen says

Having enjoyed the previous stories in this series, I pounced on this one when my daughter brought it home from the library. This dragon is somewhat different from the others, because his personality isn't set by his creator, Liz, but by the robber who steals him when he is newly made. Grabber is still every bit as endearing as his fellow dragons.

These stories are simplistic - people have names that give huge clues as to their nature for instance - but since they are aimed at young children that is part of their charm.

I love young Grabber, and eagerly await the opportunity to read about Glade, the other story in the series. I sincerely hope Chris writes even more.

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## Alea says

These books are so cute. I would've loved to read them as a child. Well, I loved to read them as a grown up to really.

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## **Matthew says**

With simplistic plotting, passable illustrations, and brusque character development, this novella from acclaimed children's author Chris d'Lacey falls short simply because, it's dull, it's tedious, and it's boring. What could've been finished in one sitting (I tend to read two-hundred pages in one hour, when I put my mind to it) was not, because I tried to put it off at any cost. I eventually relented in my hatred, simply because I have borderline OCD when it comes to finishing a book. And I did, I'm somewhat proud to say. Okay, so *The Dragons of Wayward Crescent (Book 4): Grabber*, wasn't the worst, most evil, book I've ever read. But, it wasn't great either.

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## **Anna says**

My 8 year old daughter loves this series: I prefer the older series!

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## **Maria says**

The last in a mini series of stories about some of the Pennykettle dragons. As with the previous ones, I enjoyed this one too.

Spoilers ahoy!

Grabber is not mentioned in the Last Dragon Chronicles, as he is one of the special dragons who don't live in Wayward Crescent anymore. Here we learn his story, a wonderful tale of how he was robbed by a burglar and in the end sort of becomes one himself.

As with the other books in this series, the illustrations are delightful. :)

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## **Alien\_duck says**

My one and only issue with this book is that Lucy is magically 9 again, after being 10 in Glade. This isn't because it's set before, as Lucy is friends with the girl from Glade, plus the book are numbered. It's just such a small, easily catchable and fixable thing that the publishers didn't

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## **Kate says**

\*\* For my full review please check out <http://backofthebookreviews.com/> \*\*

The 4th installement in the Dragons of Wayward Crescent series was brilliant. A perfect ending to this mini series that links to the Last Dragon Chronicles.

Such a lovely little story perfect as an introduction to the LDC.

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## Erica Flory says

adorable

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## Steven R. McEvoy says

I must admit I have had a number of Chris d'Lacey books on my to be read shelf for years now, and just never got around to starting them. It is a pity because they are wonderful books. In the last month I have read three from this series and most of two other from other series; and so far everything I have read by him has been simply wonderful. But there is something especially fun about this one. In fact my son and I have read it twice now, once just the two of us and once with his younger sister. There is currently 4 books in this highly enjoyable series. It was originally planned for 12 books but for now we must settle with just the four.

Grabber is very different than the other dragon's created by Liz Pennykettle, for shortly after his creation, before he could be schooled in the way of dragons he is pinched. And because his main influence is someone who has a habit of thieving things Grabber, having been named and influenced soon starts a life of crime! But Lucy with her view of the world and her daughter Liz soon find themselves working with the police to unravel a mystery and in the process Lucy enchants the officers and works towards a better result that reflects more truth and justice. Grabber is by far the most entertaining of the Dragons of Wayward Crescent.

This was an awesome read. It is rare for my son to want to reread a book as soon as we finish it, especially when we have the next one read. But this story was so fun he was willing to reread it and include his sister. Chris d'Lacey's books are very well written, this series grabs children's attention and keeps it, some of his other books geared for older audiences are just as well written. I love this story and look forward to reading many more books by d'Lacey.

Read the review on my blog [Book Reviews and More](#) and reviews of other books by Chris d'Lacey.

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## Kathy Davie says

Fourth in The Dragons of Wayward Crescent paranormal fantasy series for middle-grade readers and revolving around Liz Pennykettle and her knack for *special* dragons.

### My Take

As ever, *Grabber* is as cute as the previous three stories — a good, cozy, and funny story about a dragon and how he lives up to the name he's given, lol — with D'Lacey using third-person objective point-of-view, which allows us to know what each character is saying and doing.

My one niggle in this is Lucy. She knows the rules, and yet she's breaking them right and left. Okay, okay, maybe that's an exaggeration, but she keeps mouthing off about he-who-is-not-yet-named to outsiders!

The irascible Henry is amazingly good-hearted in this one. Then again, maybe I simply have a grudge

against him. He does mean well in his anti-everything way, and he certainly does “enjoy” a bit of payback karma in this one \*grin\*.

There isn't a lot about the other dragons in this, mostly because Grabber's story is outside the house on Wayward Crescent.

A wee bit of foreshadowing here when Grabber steals the sergeant's pencil...and Liz starting thinking of a dragon with a pencil...read on, McDuff, to learn why.

### **The Story**

Oh, no! No one has had time yet to teach the newest dragon the rules! Especially the number one rule: Go solid.

It's that lack of information that grabs the robber's attention with the resulting interaction grabbing at each other, as this new and compassionate dragon helps Rob, well, rob.

### **The Characters**

**Liz Pennykettle**, a.k.a., Mum, is a potter who makes dragons in her studio, the **Dragons' Den**. **Lucy** is her nine-year-old daughter. The special dragons include **Guinivere** who is Liz's personal dragon, and it's her job to “awaken” the young dragons. *Gruffen* , 1, is a guard dragon whose job is to protect Lucy from danger. *Gauge* , 2, is a timing dragon. The poor listening dragon hasn't got a name. Yet.

*Scrubbley* is...

...the small town in England where Liz and Lucy live. **Henry Bacon**, a librarian, is the Pennykettles' grumpy neighbor. **Melanie** is Lucy's best friend ( *Glade* , 3).

**Detective Inspector Bumble** and **Sergeant Beale** are investigating the robberies. **Mr. Badfellow** is a glazier who runs a 24-hour service. **Bingo** is a tabby cat who needs a home.

**Ron** is a robber who lost **Humphrey**, his teddy bear, when he was a wee tyke. **Douglas Crumbe** lives in a mansion, Custard Cream Towers, thanks to his biscuit empire. **Alistair Crumbe** was Douglas' father.

### **The Cover and Title**

The cover has an orangey-pink cloud of a frame with tiny green metallic and pastel stars frothing around an undefined pale, pale, pale pink rectangle of a center with Grabber in burglar garb — *can you imagine a green dragon in a black mask with a black-and-white horizontal striped pullover, a brown bag marked “SWAG” over his shoulder?* — as he tiptoes sneakily across the cover. The author's name is small and centered at the top in a grayish brown while the series information is at the bottom in a big metallic green and below that is the smaller title in that same grayish brown.

The title focuses on this particular dragon, *Grabber*.

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