



Which Witch? & The Secret of Platform 13: Two Magical Adventures in One

Eva Ibbotson

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Arriman the Awful, the Wizard of the North, needs a wife, and, naturally, the only woman a wizard can marry is a witch. But which witch will Arriman choose? Warty, wicked, or just plain rude-witches galore enter his spell-casting competition. Poor Belladonna doesn't have a chance. Her spells conjure up pink begonias or ice-cream sundaes, not a single viper or toad. But with the help of a mysterious orphan and a worm named Rover, Belladonna just might do something really sinister.

The Secret of Platform 13

A forgotten door on an abandoned railway platform is the entrance to a magical kingdom--an island where humans live happily with feys, mermaids, ogres, and other wonderful creatures. Carefully hidden from the world, the Island is only accessible when the door opens for nine days every nine years. A lot can go wrong in nine days. When the beastly Mrs. Trotter kidnaps the prince of the Island, it's up to a strange band of rescuers to save him. But can an ogre, a hag, a wizard, and a fey really troop around London unnoticed?

Which Witch? & The Secret of Platform 13: Two Magical Adventures in One Details

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Amber Pangburn says

This is about a warlock that spent his whole life doing dark magic. He then goes to look for a mate and he has to choose from four witches. In the end, he has a child to carry on his name. I would use this in a classroom for the students to have a writing assignment on which witch they would want for a boy, and for a girl which witch they would be and why.

Amelia says

Mikaela and me read which witch together every night before going to bed. I couldn't put it down, I wanted to keep reading it. It made putting the kids in bed so enjoyable! It may have too much black magic for some moms out there, but I didn't mind it. I thought it was a fun twist on the typical witch/wizard type of story. And Mikaela loved it too....

Samone W. says

I think this book was good. It was very interesting to me. Arriman the Awful is wizard. He was born with a full set of teeth and other things that human babies aren't born with. That's a little weird but he's a wizard that performs black magic so it is to be expected. Arriman the Awful later decided to find a wife. There was a contest for the witches and the winner would become his wife. He chose Belladonna. But she isn't a black witch. So, there is a twist to the story! Read the book to learn more! I believe that this book is a great fantasy story. Hopefully more people read this book! It's great for people that like fantasy stories. Also, people will like this story if they like to read about witches and wizards.

Mamie says

Lively writing, but the use of "dark" to mean evil magic and "white" to mean benevolent magic just doesn't work. Even though many of the characters are appealing, the author's use of these traditional but inescapably racist terms make this book unavailable for a read aloud in the modern day.

Tina says

it was a cute book. about a man trying to find a wife from a group of witches. funny when things go wrong. maybe a fun book for just a past time.

inbetween says

Sticking with children's/YA fiction, I at first thought to have another good one - but this lauded modern fairy tale soon repelled me with its hypocrisy and ingrained sexism: while the beak nose and grey hair of the hero, the tail of his secretary and the ugliness of the little boy are all celebrated and beloved as attractive individualism, only the insipid heroine Belladonna is beautiful, hence good. Again and again repulsion is indicated by the hairiness and girth of various women, with never a single glimpse of intelligence to indicate the middle-European author is aware of what she's doing. Two bad ones are thin, but they also have red hair. The story is a lot like a genre romance, but from what I remember most YA books I read had similar patterns, or most good genre romances at least have a little adventure plot.

The plot was much more obvious in Platform 13, painfully so, since once again nothing at all redeemed the bad ones, which were fat and did fat things, like eat and be fat. Otherwise Ibbotson pre-empted Harry Potter and Artemis Fowl here, and if they weren't met with such unrelenting revulsion, some of her fantastic trios would be as delightful as Pullman claims. I wish she'd extended herself either into true tolerance or. Sigh.

Becky says

This was a very cute and clever book and great to read with kids. It kept my 6 year old's attention for at least 30 pages when my throat dried out.

Dana says

Arriman the Awful, the Wizard of the North, has waited and waited for a replacement but no one has arrived. He decides the best way to pass on his dark magic is to marry. But Who? He decides to hold a competition. Whoever performs the darkest magic, wins.

There are sea witches and country witches, witch twins and even an enchantress shows up at the last minute. But Belladonna, a white witch has unfortunately fallen in love with Arriman. She is determined to win but how does she start creating vipers instead of bunnies. Terence, an orphan that Belladonna rescues and his pet worm, Rover might just be the help she needs.

The contest is fun and the end has a couple of really nice twists. A fun and imaginative book!!

Riley says

I read this book in fourth grade and I've always liked it. It's very cute and a pretty quick read.

Jf says

As I said in my last review I really liked this book then the other book I was talking of because this one is

more magical and exiting, its well written in a style that I understand and that I like. It isn't like those books that I had read that have weird sayings and paragraphs; it's all a well structured book in the sense of grammar and understanding. What I learned from this book is to never give up with your dreams no matter what the circumstances are. In the whole story Belladonna (protagonist) enters to a black magic contest two marry a very powerful wizard, but the big problem is that she is a white witch and she can create black magic spells, she also need to face a really black, evil, and powerful witch that intents to kill the wizard to stay with his fortune. But at the end of the story she wins the contest and lives happily ever after. My final opinion is that this was one of the best books Eva Ibbotson had ever written till now.

Merritt says

I LOVE this book. I think it was what REALLY got me into reading. It was the first book I read where I was just totally sucked in. Really cute and funny, and so different from other children's fantasies.

Haylie says

funny, and charming...very good!

Melissa says

I adore Eva Ibbotson's writing. Both "The Secret of Platform 13" and "Which Witch" are fantastic and charming. I think I preferred Platform 13 because the story is a bit more dynamic and suspenseful, with more twists and turns. Which Witch is sort of a straight run throughout. I love them both though.

Angelina says

i have just started reading this book but so far i think that it is an amazing, exciting book and i highly recommend it to any reader.

12.12.10

im on page 56 and so far and so far and i have one connection with belladonna and it is that she loves everything and so do she also cares for every person she meets even people she is complete opposites with and im the same way. and that's what i have a connection to.

12.17.10

Im on page 119 and the only connection i have is with Terence. The connection i have to him is that he has a pet, but his is a worm mine is a dog. Terence is extremely close with his worm Rover and im the same way with my dog Karlee. Terence would never give up Rover unless he was giving it to Belladonna. And the only

reason he does that it because Rover is used for witchcraft. But i would never let my dog be used for witchcraft. That is my connection with Trence.

1.17.11

Im on page 159 and the connection i have is with Terence. And the reason i have this connection is because Trence just lost his worm Rover. And i have lost alot of things my whole life. But not my dog Karlee or at least not yet because she is on a leash. And that is my connection i have with Terence.

Jeane says

This is a very good book for those who want to take a break from adult books. It's really entertaining and somewhat nostalgic for me because i loved reading fantasy books when i was younger and this books is basically a fantasy book. It's about a handsome warlock that is looking for a bride. He is famous amongst the ladies so many witches are interested in him so he decides to turn this opportunity into a contest. The rules whoever performs the darkest magic would be his bride. It has a very interesting twist when the purest witch ends up winning the contest. What did she do? Read and find out :)
