



We're Out of Here!

Elise Gravel

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Animal lover and kid scientist Olga is back! Great for fans of the acclaimed graphic novels *Real Friends* and *Invisible Emmie*.

In this second installment of a series *Franny K. Stein* creator Jim Benton called “great, kooky, monstrous fun,” Olga wants to leave earth in search of Meh’s home planet, but first she’ll have to discover why Meh is acting so strange.

Olga: We're Out of Here is jam-packed with facts and fun: Elise Gravel’s classic comic illustrations, hilarious word bubbles, space travel facts, and a diverse cast of memorable characters.

Brightly.com put *Olga and the Smelly Thing from Nowhere* on their "Ultimate Summer Reading List for 9- to 12-Year-Olds."

And Kirkus said of it: “A visually interesting mix of illustration and story, punctuated by numerous lists, comic panels, and cartoon diagrams and led by a smart female protagonist. A bubble-gum crowd pleaser with wide audience appeal.”

We're Out of Here! Details

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Author : Elise Gravel

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From Reader Review We're Out of Here! for online ebook

Alison says

Not as funny as the first book, but still entertaining and endearing

Ms. Yingling says

ARC from Young Adult Books Central

Olga and Meh are back after their exploits in *Olga and the Smelly Thing From Nowhere*. Olga and her friend Chuck are enjoying playing with the strange and smelly pet, but Olga becomes concerned when Meh starts exhibiting strange symptoms. The creature has weird growths on its belly, smells even worse, is picky about food, and is generally lacking energy and enthusiasm. Even the Lalas try to help care for the sick pet, but nothing seems to make Meh better. It's hard to find a vet for a possibly alien creature, and Olga does consult Dr. Spiffle, only to find him taking selfies with her pet and offering no real answers. Luckily, a turn of event points out what was wrong with Meh, who quickly recuperates.

This is a goofy notebook novel, with very little text and lots of cartoon style pictures. Meh's background leads to all manner of wild conjecture, which is accompanied by appropriate drawings. Olga thinks about what she would do with a herd of Olgamuses, she dreams about traveling to Meh's home planet, and even gives us information about scientists in her somewhat oddball way.

I did enjoy the fact that when Meh got sick, Olga consulted her local librarian, Ms. Swoop. Ms. Swoop is a tattooed, hipster librarian who manages to give Olga a little bit of advice, as opposed to Mr. Gumstrap, a librarian who doesn't think children should be allowed in the library and whose lips are the same color as his face. (Which really shouldn't be held against him; it happens to many of us!) She also has the supportive store owner, Mr. Hoopah, who supplies her with olives and other sundries for Meh. Olga's parents are absent from the story.

Readers who like funny, quirky notebook novels like Shreve's *Stan and the Toilet Monster*, Skye's *The Creature from my Closet* and or Kowitz's *The Principal's Underwear is Missing* will enjoy the further exploits of Olga and her stinky pink pet.

Isa Rive says

Olga tries to find out why her pet Meh from outer space is unwell. Good graphic appeal. It didn't explain how she came to have a strange pet. Maybe there is an earlier book?

Alyx Campbell says

I love this series and this was a great addition. Overall, this book is very quirky with high kid appeal and a colorful layout. I love what a strong female character Olga is. I was genuinely and very pleasantly surprised

by the ending! A great Wimpy kid read alike

Alchemy Celest says

This is the second book in the Olga series, and is amazing. Meh gets a mysterious illnesses and a fraud celebrity veterinarian takes meh to gain more fame online, because meh is the first animal of its kind to visit earth. Luckily it's just because meh was PREGNANT with Meh babies! Awww!

Teresa Edmunds says

In this book, Olga and her alien pet Meh want to go to Meh's planet. They start at the library to find out about space travel. Meh starts to act sick and has bumps all over. Olga takes Meh to the vet. The vet is very strange. After a few more experiences, Olga and Meh decide to stay on earth. This is a simple and quick story, but it is cute. (review by Daphne, 6th grade)

Nick says

While this is an excellent sequel, it would be a poor jumping-on point for the series. Readers really do need to have read the first book before tackling this one, as most of the characters are introduced before this book starts. That especially applies to Meh, the "pet" that Olga acquired in the first book.

This book deals with Olga's attachment to Meh, even when Meh is apparently sick in a fairly repulsive set of ways. Olga's behavior is adorable, and anyone who has ever seen a child love a pet would understand at least most of her behavior.

The oddest thing about this book, that I only realized after reading it, was the total absence of adult family members in the story. The only adults here are two very different librarians and the staff and folks at a veterinary office. Olga's interactions with them range from friendly to very peculiar.

The hybrid nature of the book will make it visually similar to things like Big Nate or other books mixing text with cartoony graphics, but the story is a little different. Unlike some of the books of this nature, the Olga books each have a story running through the entire book, albeit with lots of digressions.

Overall, highly recommended for anyone who read and liked the first volume. Hold off on it until you can do that, though.

Pop Bop says

A Worthy Sequel

This is the second book in the Olga series. While I thought it was fine, and while a reader could certainly start with this book, it might be best overall to begin this series with the first book.

In Book 1, ("Olga and the Smelly Thing from Nowhere"), we first meet Olga, find Meh, and are introduced to all of Olga's friends. In that book Olga is grumpy, bordering on grouchy, but we get to see her mellow out as the story progresses. In this new installment Olga continues to have her doubts about the appeal of humans

generally, but without the backstory her little asides and gripes, (about pollution, rudeness, and that sort of thing), can feel a touch out of place. In the same vein the existence of Meh, an alien pet-being-thing might feel out of context for a new reader.

I guess the best way to describe it is to note that Book 1 is really a character and story setup book, and this sequel is more a complete story that just jumps right off. As to that story, well, it has a lot of moving parts. Olga wants to be an astronaut so that she and Meh can try to find Meh's home planet. Lots of good stuff about space, the space program, and astronauts. This is where Olga's narrative, funny drawings, Olga's lists, captioned drawings, research results, and all the other graphic novelties and sidebars really shine. Sometimes the book feels like a wacky middle grade multi-media presentation, and I mean that in the best way possible.

Once Olga decides to wait for teleportation to be invented the book heads in an entirely different direction. Meh appears to be ill and Olga tries, increasingly frantically, to figure out Meh's problem. This leads us to all of Olga's quirky adult friends, her best pal, the internet, the sisters next door, and pretty much everyone else we met in Book 1. There's a happy ending, but there is also suspense beforehand as Meh keeps getting sicker. This is handled well, isn't really unnerving, and helps to humanize grouchy Olga, who was never all that grouchy anyway. This is all done with a light touch and a nice sense of humor.

All of this adds up to why I enjoyed this sequel. The story is new. There's a promise of more to come. Olga keeps showing us her better side even as she kvetches, and the author continues to inject sly little bits and jokes to also amuse older readers and adults. This is a quirky little book, but it's ambitious and well crafted, with a sneaky charm and an underlying good humor that I appreciated. I think I'd like any kid who liked this series.

(Please note that I received a free advance will-self-destruct-in-x-days Adobe Digital copy of this book without a review requirement, or any influence regarding review content should I choose to post a review. Apart from that I have no connection at all to either the author or the publisher of this book.)

McKenzie Richardson says

For more reviews, check out my blog: [Craft-Cycle](#)

Cute book. I didn't like it as much as the first one, but it was still a very entertaining read.

In this book, Olga speculates where Meh came from and dreams of going into space to find others of Meh's kind. While doing so, Olga gives the reader interesting facts about space and space travel, including a list of famous females in space. I love the focus on women in STEM fields. It is one of the things I really enjoy about this series.

The rest of the book is a funny and random adventure, which includes a strange trip to the vet and Meh's mysterious health issues. As an adult reading this, the cause of Meh's health issues were pretty obvious (it's kind of an overused theme in children's literature by now), but I can see how kid's wouldn't necessarily expect it.

As with the first, I enjoyed the artwork in the book.

Overall, this is a good read, but a bit more predictable than the first (for an adult at least). Still entertaining

though. I will definitely continue to read this series if more books come out.

Erin says

This story zags a lot, but it's hard not to be charmed by Olga and Meh.

Sarah says

I received this through Edelweiss in exchange for an honest review.

This book was strange, but funny. Olga's alien pet, Meh, has begun acting stranger than usual. Olga knows that her pet is sick and she will get to the bottom of how to make her pet feel better.

Graphic novel readers will enjoy this strange story.

Dierdre says

Olga is interested in leaving earth to get away from annoying humans and to find her pet Meh's home planet, as Meh is an unknown species Olga found in the first book. It would have been a bit more helpful to have read the first book, but there was still enjoyment to be found in this installment. I was curious why she was so annoyed by most humans. I appreciated Olga's love of animals, her approach to research, and her love of her local librarian. The story was fairly predictable, from an adult point of view, but may surprise young readers. Nice read for reluctant readers, especially those who have a quirky sense of humor.

Victoria says

Olga the grumpy scientist was wonderful in her debut but in her sophomore appearance, her challenges are a little less fun. Though it's nice to see Olga and sweet Meh the stinky Olgamus, this book will be somewhat of a let down for her fans.

The Library Lady says

That the alien pet is named "Meh" could only be better if the pet was named "Feh!"

Aaron says

I enjoyed reading this with my seven year old. We enjoy the quirky humour.
