

Villain School: Good Curses Evil

AUTHOR: Stephanie S. Sanders

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GENRE: Fantasy

SUMMARY: Rune and his friends, Jezebel Dracula and Big Bad Wolf Jr., just can't be bad enough! They are sent to the Wayward Villain's School to learn how to become the evil people that their parents want them to be. They are soon given a Plot to complete within one week: kidnap a princess, steal a baby, find a henchman, and overthrow a kingdom. As they set off on their journey to complete the plot, they run into many magical characters who help them, and of course, evil characters who want to foil their plans.

BOOKTALK: Are you good at being bad? Rune Drexler isn't. And this would be no big deal...except for the fact that Rune Drexler is supposed to be an evil villain! To learn how to be evil, Rune has to go to Villian School, along with other misled characters like a vampire girl who likes chocolate instead of blood and the son of the Big Bad Wolf who would rather save a child than eat it. Rune is given a seemingly impossible task called a "plot" by the school's headmaster, his father, and must complete it quickly. He must: 1. Kidnap a princess. 2. Steal a baby. 3. Find a henchman. And 4. Overthrow a kingdom. Rune must complete all of this in just one week! Can he do it? Read Villain School: Good Curses Evil to find out!

AUTHOR'S BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH:

Stephanie Sanders, this is her debut novel.

<http://www.stepsanders.com/#bio>

CHALLENGING WORDS (...due to pronunciation, spelling and/or defining):

droned - p. 1

morphing - p. 1

valid - p. 6

conjunction - p. 8

leering - p. 12

salivating - p. 26

motley - p. 31

scalawags - p. 31

famished - p. 34

appraising - p. 35

conspiracy - p. 49
alliances - p. 51
orb - p. 56
suppress - p. 62
contemplate - p. 65
convoluted - p. 66
prowled - p. 68
sprites - p. 69
pilfered - p. 72
optimistic - p. 76
combusting - p. 76
shimmering - p. 76
capcaun - p. 81
roguish - p. 86
retaliated - p. 90
decacle - p. 98
scrutinize - p. 104
confer - p. 105
malevolent - p. 105
submerged - p. 107
grotto - p. 107
pulverized - p. 116
tethered - p. 118
impishly - p. 144

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1 What other books does this remind you of? How do your connections help you understand the book better?

- 2 Which character had the funniest background? What made you laugh about that character?

- 3 Is Rune evil? Prove your answer with evidence from the book.

4. Have you ever tried to live up to your parents expectations? What would you do if they wanted you to do something bad?

5. Do you think Rune completed all four tasks? Why/why not?

ACTIVITIES with COMMON CORE STANDARDS:

Language Arts:

1. Use the library to find other books of nursery rhymes and fairy tales. Determine who the evil characters are. What if they had a child who had to go to Villain School. Draw a picture of the child and write a paragraph about what they did that made their parents send them to villain school.

4.RL.3 Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions).

5.RL.3 Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., how characters interact).

2. What's next from Rune? Write a fantasy story about Rune's next plot. Use other characters from the book or create new ones of your own.

4.W.3 Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

5.W.3 Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

6.W.3 Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.

LIFE SKILLS: problem solving, initiative, resourcefulness, friendship

RELATED INTERNET SITES:

Email the author here! - <http://www.stepsanders.com/#contact>