

Be a Genie in Six Easy Steps

Linda Chapman and Steve Cole

Reviewed by: Enzo Takagi, 16

Star Teen Book Reviewer of Be the Star You Are! Charity

www.bethestaryouare.org

This novel is about four kids, Milly, Michael, Jason and Jess who recently have moved from London to a town in the countryside. They have also recently become stepsiblings but do not like each other very well. Their parents have decided to start a book store business, so their father purchases many books.

Since it is summer break, the kids do not have anything to do in this small town. Milly and Jason are very bored, so they decide to look through the books that their father has bought. One book that catches their attention is *The Genie Handbook: Grant Wishes like an Expert in Six Easy Steps*. They pick up the book and look inside. To their disappointment, the books are written in a foreign language. As they look through the book for any English words, they hear a peculiar noise, and the book starts to tremble. Then a worm that talks comes out, calling itself Skribble. Skribble turns out to be the kids' guide through the magic book. As they progress in their genie training, the writing on the book turns into English and they are able to continue their genie training. Each of the six steps in training lead them to gain power and learn new things, but a mysterious couple with creepy eyes seems to be following them. In the end, the children have to use this teamwork, thinking, and magic to get out of sticky situations.

This book was moderately funny, and I think it would be hilarious for young readers. The book is appropriate for all ages, and I recommend it for young readers in elementary or middle school. I would recommend it as a gift because it is quite entertaining.