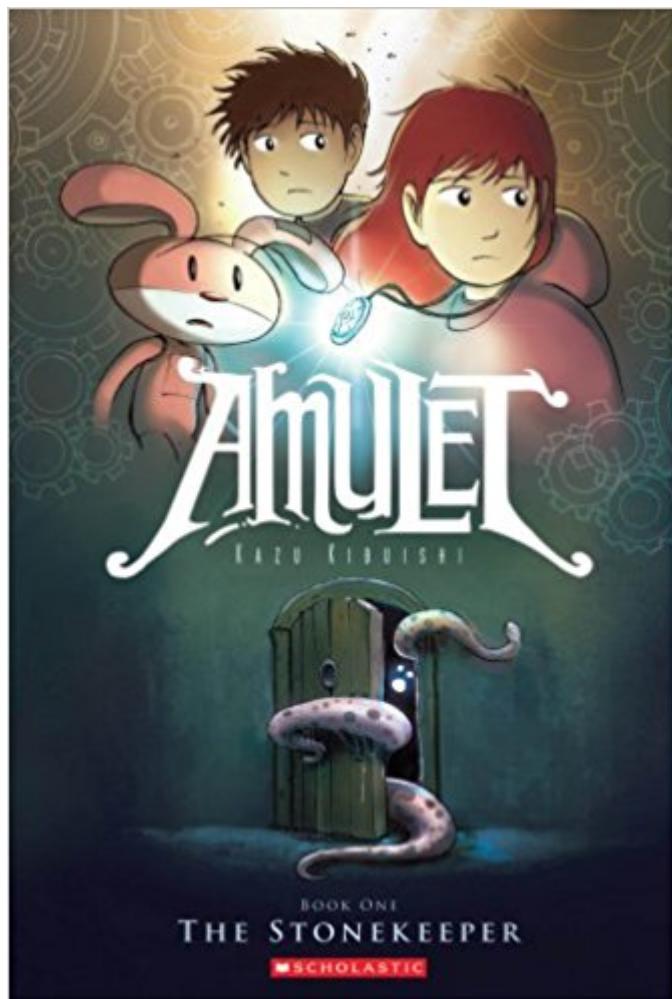


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# The Stonekeeper (Amulet #1)



## Synopsis

Graphic novel star Kazu Kibuishi creates a world of terrible, man-eating demons, a mechanical rabbit, a talking fox, a giant robot--and two ordinary children on a mission. After the tragic death of their father, Emily and Navin move with their mother to the home of her deceased great-grandfather, but the strange house proves to be dangerous. Before long, a sinister creature lures the kids' mom through a door in the basement. Em and Navin, desperate not to lose her, follow her into an underground world inhabited by demons, robots, and talking animals. Eventually, they enlist the help of a small mechanical rabbit named Miskit. Together with Miskit, they face the most terrifying monster of all, and Em finally has the chance to save someone she loves.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 310L (What's this?)

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: GRAPHIX; First Edition edition (January 1, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0439846811

ISBN-13: 978-0439846813

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 513 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #3,154 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #15 in Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Spine-Chilling Horror #44 in Books > Children's Books > Comics & Graphic Novels #143 in Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy & Magic

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Almost too clever and poignant, *Amulet* is, on the surface, about navigating the murky waters of adolescence and, beneath that, an exploration of abandonment and survival. Emily and Navin are lost children, literally lost in a dark, new world and struggling to save their mother, who has been kidnapped by a drooling, tentacled beast. With stellar artwork, imaginative character design, moody color and consistent pacing, this first volume's weakness lies in its largely disjointed storytelling. There is the strong, young, heroine; cute, furry, sidekicks; scary monsters—•all extraordinary

components, but pieced together in a patchwork manner. There is little hope in his dark world as Kibuishi removes Emily and Navin's frame of safety. Their hopes rest in a magic amulet that seems to be working in the interest of the children—until it suddenly isn't. The most frightening element of *Amulet* is the sense of insecurity we feel for Emily, fighting her way through uncharted terrain with no guide and no support system. This first volume of *Amulet* isn't a disappointment, but it does feel like a warmup to the main event. If anything, it's a clear indication that Kibuishi has just begun skimming the surface of his own talent. (Jan.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Praise for *Amulet* *New York Times* Bestseller "Five-no, three pages into *Amulet* and you'll be hooked." - Jeff Smith, creator of *BONE* "[The] action-packed adventure sequences move at an exciting clip . . . Part fantasy . . . and part manga, this volume has much to appeal to readers." - *Booklist* "A richly drawn graphic-fantasy series following in the footsteps of *BONE* and a must for all fantasy fans." - *Kirkus Reviews* "Stellar artwork, imaginative character design, moody color and consistent pacing." - *PW Comics Week*

I stumbled onto this series a few years on the internet and saw the preview pages for the first book. The preview told the story of a car crash where a young girl lost her father. It was deeply moving imagery and story telling, after which I had to sit there for a few minutes to recover from reading the preview. The colors are bright enough set an positive tone, while not feeling garish for an adult. The style of drawing of the characters make them expressive in conveying their emotions. The storytelling captures the essence of childhood, the relationship of kids with their parents, the bravery of going on an adventure, the fear of the unknown, and transition where the unknown turns with imagination into wonder. I knew this series was a real gem, so I ended up thinking about buying the book as a present for several months. First person I brought the series for was a 20 years old friend, and she loved it. Second person was my sister, who was 15 when I got the book for her, and she loved it too. I also brought the series for the 6 year old kids of a friend too. Their mum apparently has been reading it and said they're great books. This series will call to both young and young at heart.

*The Stonekeeper* is the first volume in Kazu Kibuishi's graphic novel series. Although aimed at middle school, it is good for upper elementary school children, and is enjoyable for adults as well. 2 years after the death of Emily and Navin's father in a tragic car crash, Karen moves her children to

the family's old house in a dense forest. Built by Karen's grandfather Silas who then disappeared, it has been abandoned for years. During the first night, they hear a strange noise, and Karen is captured by an Arachnopod, a creature from a parallel world, Alledia. Emily and Navin follow their mother into the parallel world where they find their ailing great-grandfather Silas. He tells Emily about the power of the amulet she found in his house. It is the key to ruling Alledia. Silas expires, but not before instructing his robot and animal minions to aid Emily and Navin. This first volume, besides setting the story arc, narrates the rescue of Karen. Unfortunately, she is poisoned setting up the next volume for finding the antidote. Besides an engaging story with compelling characters, Kibuishi is a fantastic illustrator. As with many exemplar graphic novels the spare text is amplified and much of the story told through his illustrations. The creatures of Alledia are strange enough to pique our imagination, but not so much that they are totally alien in form. After reading *Stonekeeper*, I am eager to see what happens next with Emily and Navin, and their company.

My daughter just learned to read over the past year. I've floated a lot of series books past her, but none have captivated her attention as entirely as the *Amulet* series. She read Book 1 in 2 days, all on her own, and is now well into the series (and really upset that there are only five books in total; at this rate, she'll be done in a week!) Highly recommended: the illustrations are stunning, and unlike most graphic novels, the language is challenging yet accessible for younger readers. The books seems a bit scary to me, but that seems to be part of the appeal.

I first heard of Kazu Kibuishi through him designing the covers for Harry Potter and when I heard that they were graphic novels of his I simply had to get it. His art and story was incredible and I love how fast paced it was. I can't wait to continue with this series :)

Saw this and ordered it for my kid to read, as I wanted to introduce him to comic. He loved it. It has been a few months since I got the volume #1 of this series, and I have got all of them for him now. Great series and the art work was wonderful.

My 8 year old son loves this series.

Love this book series! My son is a reluctant reader, but he couldn't put this series down! He got his whole class into reading the series as well!

I love anything that gets children excited about reading! My daughter came home from the school library raving over this book and said she couldn't wait to finish dinner so she could go read more. A few days later she was depressed because there was a wait list for book 2. I made a deal with her that I would buy her book 2 if she did something for me. She did such a good job I bought her book 2 that same week. She finished it so quickly and couldn't stop talking about it that I decided to see if there were more books in the series. I found out there were 5 with a 6th one in the works! Right then I decided to buy the other books. I didn't realize how difficult it would be to find them all but it was worth the effort! I ended up ordering the entire series including Book 1. Even though she had already read it she wanted to take her time and re-read it. WOW that says it all! Worth every penny. She loved all of them!! It had her from the first word of Book 1 to the end of Book 5. Waiting for Book 6 to be released. I highly recommend this series.

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