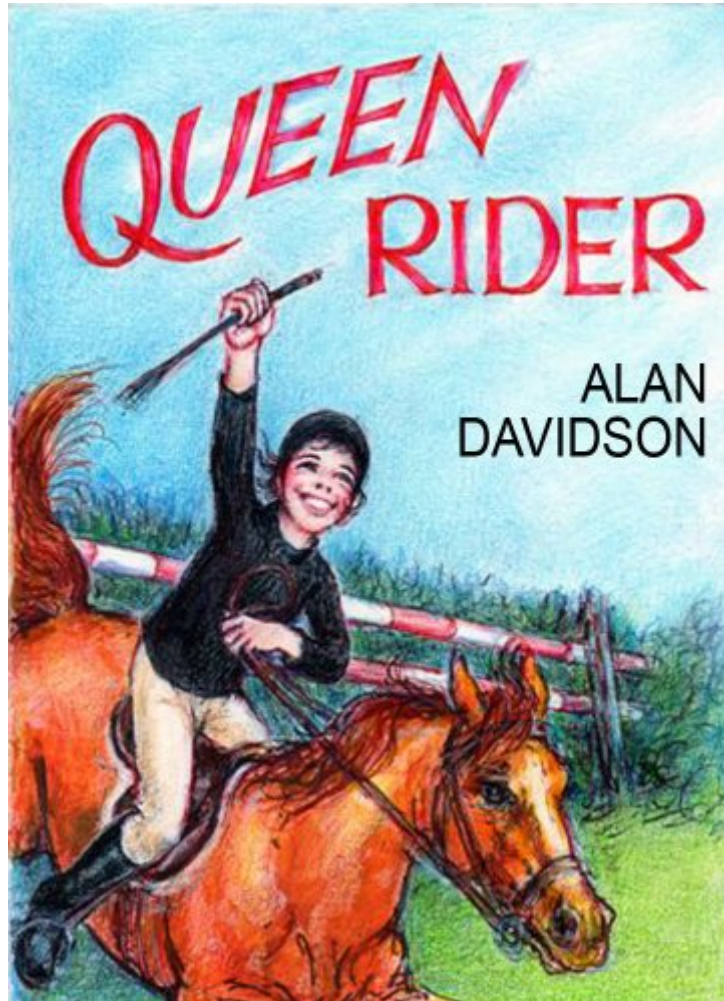




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QUEEN RIDER



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Synopsis

Impossible Bonnie Wyndham, expelled from her last three schools, knows she's only been accepted at sports-mad Almonside because she's a superb rider. She doesn't intend to stay long. Just long enough to prove she's the best. But equally Ruth Caradon, her tough, soft-spoken riding instructor, doesn't intend to let Bonnie get the better of her and queen it around Almonside. Or -- is their conflict about something different altogether? A riveting study of a power struggle, with a nail-biting show jumping background, from the author of *The Bewitching of Alison Allbright*. 'The momentum begins to build from the very first lines and never flags at all....Highly recommended.' -

REVIEWSHEETALAN DAVIDSON's other works of MG/YA fiction include *THE BEWITCHING OF ALISON ALLBRIGHT*, *MARINA IN A GREEN DRESS* and *A FRIEND LIKE ANNABEL*.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Queen Rider by Alan Davidson is a middle grade story about an intolerable girl named Bonnie Wyndham who will, unknowingly, be faced with decisions that will alter her life forever. Bonnie Wyndham has been expelled from her last three schools for her unruly behavior. Now, she is given

the opportunity of a lifetime to attend Almonside, a school with a top notch riding program. Bonnie may struggle in the classroom and among her peers, but she excels at riding. In the past Bonnie has been able to get her way with teachers and students through her unpleasant and domineering attitude, but she has never met anyone like Ms. Ruth Caradon, her soft-spoken riding instructor. Ms. Caradon refuses to acknowledge Bonnie's unpleasantness, which infuriates Bonnie all the more. The two stubborn, yet talented riders are about to go head-to-head in an important competition, but who will learn the bigger lesson, student or instructor? Young readers will be able to identify with Bonnie's schoolmates as they are forced to deal with Bonnie's selfish and spoiled mannerisms. However, when Ms. Caradon's true motives are revealed, reader's will find themselves cheering for Bonnie as she attempts to defeat Ms. Caradon and win the Lazard Trophy. Lessons of compassion, honesty and second chances are found throughout the story as several lives are enhanced by the challenges and life lessons they are confronted with. I recommend picking up a copy of *Queen Rider*.

Bonnie Wyndham's mother has enrolled her at Almonside, a school that pays particular attention to sports. Since she has been kicked out of several schools Almonside is Bonnie's last chance at private school. At Almonside Bonnie can major in something she really loves. Riding horses. However, her attitude is still just as bad and almost immediately she starts conflict with her riding instructor Ruth Caradon. As they go head-to-head the question is: who will win? Well-written with a tight plot and interesting characters. Troubled Bonnie is really a brat of the first order. Ruth Caradon has issues of her own that she thought were in the past, but dealing with Bonnie brings them back. The battle of wills was interesting to watch as Bonnie acted on emotion and Caradon worked mostly on gut instinct. The ending was quite a surprise. Another great read by Alan Davidson. *Many thanks to Straw Hat for providing me with a review copy. Please see disclaimer page on my blog.

Queen Rider by Alan Davidson is a well-written middle-grader. Davidson does a good job of developing the main character, Bonnie Wyndham. Bonnie is a trouble-making teenager who is sent to a boarding school that has an elite jumping club. As I got to know Bonnie, I was curious to find out what caused her self-destructive behavior. However, I was a little disappointed when the cause of her behavior was revealed. I thought this part of the story could have been written with more depth. I felt that *Queen Rider* had a lot of potential to be a deeply emotional story, but was disappointed when it fell flat. Young readers who like horses will enjoy reading this book. However, I am not sure that it will appeal to a larger audience.

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