



***SNAPDRAGON*** by Kat Leyh

First Second, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group, 2020

ISBN: 9781250171122 (Hardcover)

\*Age Range: 10-14

Grade Range: 5-8 (Recommended by *School Library Journal*)

## BOOK SYNOPSIS

---

Kat Leyh's *Snapdragon* is a magical realist graphic novel about a young girl who befriends her town's witch and discovers the strange magic within herself.

Snap's town had a witch.

At least, that's how the rumor goes. But in reality, Jacks is just a crocks-wearing, internet-savvy old lady who sells roadkill skeletons online—after doing a little ritual to put their spirits to rest. It's creepy, sure, but Snap thinks it's kind of cool, too.

They make a deal: Jacks will teach Snap how to take care of the baby opossums that Snap rescued, and Snap will help Jacks with her work. But as Snap starts to get to know Jacks, she realizes that Jacks may in fact have real magic—and a connection with Snap's family's past.

## REVIEWS AND PRAISE

---

★ "Full of magic and humor, this intersectional, layered tale offers joyful and affirming depictions of social outsiders and comfortably complicated families." —[Publisher's Weekly](#), **starred review** and a Publisher's Weekly Best of Book 2020

★ "This endearingly offbeat story emphasizes found community, the importance of love and friendship, and a fierce commitment to individuality—all powerful themes for middle-grade readers." —[Booklist](#), **starred review**

★ "Sweet and fierce, this is a must-have." —[Kirkus Reviews](#), **starred review**

"Vibrant colors bring a lovable cast and more than a few spells to life." —[School Library Journal](#), from their Best Books of 2020 list

Updated 1.24.2024

Macmillan Children's Publishing Group

Contact Mary Van Akin [mary.vanakin@macmillan.com](mailto:mary.vanakin@macmillan.com)

"Leyh skillfully balances magic and realism...readers familiar with Leyh's work in the Lumberjanes series will recognize her bouncy, dynamic art and figures that are nearly always in motion, keeping the energy high and the tone lively."—*The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*

"Epic." —*Parents Magazine*, from their 2020 Best Books for Teens list

"Snapdragon invigorates a classic hero's journey with magic and heart."—[The AV Club](#)

"Snapdragon is a unique and perfect story about a witch in the woods, girls who live in a trailer park, and the unexpected web of connections tying everyone together. It's a book about finding your power, in more ways than one. I laughed and cried, and you will, too!" —Molly Knox Ostertag, author of the *Witch Boy* series

"An absolute treasure. It's kind, vibrant, and alive, with characters you'll love immediately—I had to reread it right away, because I wasn't ready to say goodbye yet! An unforgettable story about loving ourselves, those around us, and the world we inhabit." —Gale Galligan, author of the *Kristy's Big Day* graphic novel

"Snapdragon is the shero for the girl in every reader, casting her magic and fire on every panel, every page. Volume 2, please!" —Rita Williams-Garcia, author of the Gaither Sisters series

"The star of the book is the way Leyh draws her flippin' heart out to make a story that really doesn't need words at all. We'd get 90 percent of it from the pictures and the way her people look at each other. And not just the plot. We'd understand how they relate to one another, the kinds of love they feel for one another, and the fundamentally generous impulse that cushions all the hard things the book contains. If we just allow the people we know to be who they are and give them space and understanding, we might just make a better world, it says." —[The Comics Journal](#)

"Kat Leyh's story is an example of the best of children's literature with a strong focus on kindness and strength, spinning a magical tale all the while giving kids a way to navigate fear and the hard parts of life without losing their spirit and what makes them special." —[The Popverse](#)

"This is a beautiful graphic novel with a unique plot and beautifully illustrated characters. This book is not about queerness or transness but seamlessly includes both....a good book for opening up conversations about respecting the earth's creatures, normalizing the concept of trans kids and queer seniors, or just plain finding a fun story with witchy elements." —[ALA Rainbow Round Table Book Review](#)

## AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

---

- *A School Library Journal* Best Book of 2020
- *A Publishers Weekly* Best Book of 2020
- *A Parents Magazine* Best Book of 2020
- A Junior Library Guild Selection
- An Eisner Award Nominee
- A New York Public Library Best Books of the Year

Updated 1.24.2024

Macmillan Children's Publishing Group

Contact Mary Van Akin [mary.vanakin@macmillan.com](mailto:mary.vanakin@macmillan.com)

## MEDIA AND RESOURCES

---

- [Discussion Guide](#)
- [Take a virtual book tour](#)
- [Interview with Kat Leyh](#)
- [New York Public Library KidsLive Video Interview with Kat Leyh](#)

### **\*A NOTE ON AGE RANGES**

---

A publisher-suggested age range covers the gamut of readers that publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate age range for the diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.

**Updated 1.24.2024**

Macmillan Children's Publishing Group  
Contact Mary Van Akin [mary.vanakin@macmillan.com](mailto:mary.vanakin@macmillan.com)