



# Rutabaga the Adventure Chef

*Eric Colossal*

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## **Rutabaga the Adventure Chef** Eric Colossal

A fantasy graphic novel series follows an "adventure chef" named Rutabaga, who travels to a fantasy land to find bizarre ingredients to cook in his enchanted cauldron. The books will include pages straight out of Rutabaga's cookbooks, with recipes that readers can make at home.

## **Rutabaga the Adventure Chef Details**

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Author : Eric Colossal

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# From Reader Review Rutabaga the Adventure Chef for online ebook

## Ms. Yingling says

Public library copy.

Rutabaga, who lives in a Anglo-Germanic medievalish world, travels around in search of adventure and exotic ingredients. There are few problems that arise which his concoctions can't fix, whether it's fighting dragons or getting the king's new pet to eat. There are lots of adventures to be had, including tagging along with a group of scary looking soldiers from Fnard who want to avenge their mother's death. Traveling with a kitchen on his back and a ready "Let's get cooking" on his lips, Rutabaga travels the realm and feeds his friends while saving the world.

Strengths: Elementary school students whose parents have let them play Runescape or (heaven forbid) watch The Lord of the Rings movies will like this graphic novel of medieval adventure. It's quirky, and the illustrations are in a style oddly reminiscent of Speed Racer. I can see Pokemon fans liking this one, too.

Weaknesses: I don't know how well this would go over in middle school. My Lord of the Rings fans are really, really serious kind of people, and my goofy graphic novel lovers don't care much for medieval fantasy.

What I really think: This was just... weird. I suppose dragon obsessed elementary school students would like this, and wouldn't necessarily be looking for actually recipes. A bit of a gross factor in most of Rutabaga's cooking, although there are modified recipes in the back.

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## Raina says

D&D for kids, except your powers all revolve around being a great chef. In comics.

Cute, brightly colored, good for the Lunch Lady, Babymouse set who aren't quite ready for Zita the Spacegirl, Monster on the Hill etc.

Easy to follow, some silly recipes (all the ingredients in the story are fictional - the only recipes you could actually make are in the extra matter at the back).

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## Patrice Sartor says

Rutabaga wields a spatula instead of a sword, yet an adventurous spirit still burns in him, leading him to join up with brave fighters, hunting monsters and meeting others. Some recipes are illustrated, with fantasy-type ingredients that could be substituted for modern-world ones fairly easily. Plus, the author includes some recipes at the back of the book so you too can GET COOKING (Rutabaga's war cry)!

Oh, how I loved this book! It exudes charm, it caused me to giggle, and it made me smile lots. It's cute and quirky, with brightly colored, vibrant and expressive artwork to match. My 14 year old son thought it was okay, though it "shows too much cooking for my tastes". He's also a tad out of the age group for this, maybe, even though he's heavily into Dungeons & Dragons, another group that may enjoy this title.

Worth your time, and it won't even take much of that!

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### **Jillyn says**

This is the cutest book. I was intrigued by it because I love stories to do with cooking and food. My dad was a chef and I grew up in the kitchen, so it's a nice relatable bit of nostalgia for me.

The artwork is adorable. It's fun for kids with good details and even better facial expressions. I could very easily see this as a fun anime-styled cartoon on the Cartoon Network or Nickelodeon, or even PBS Kids. It's a high adventure mixed with a lot of humor. Reading it made me smile even as an adult, and I think that says a lot for a book aimed at younger folks. My ARC was not a full color copy, though the finalized version is in full color I'm told. I think the color would certainly make it more fun, but even in black and white it was well received.

I think it's cool that there's little recipes and cooking steps throughout the book. Some of them are for fantastical ingredients that the chef finds on his culinary adventures, but others are things that kids can try to make at home.

It's a silly, funny quest that I think elementary school kids will love. Like a Baby Einstein's version of the show No Reservations. I'd definitely pick up the second book in this series.

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### **Sara Grochowski says**

Introducing Rutabaga, a culinary adventurer willing to travel great distances and defeat dangerous beasts in his quest for the perfect ingredient! Traveling with his pop up kitchen and trusty sidekick, Pot, Rutabaga finds himself in all manner of sticky situations where, despite his underdog status, he manages to save the day and prepare some pretty impressive meals. Full of humor, adventure, and foodie creativity, this first volume of Rutabaga's adventures is sure to win over even the most reluctant reader.

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### **Wayne McCoy says**

'Rutabaga the Adventure Chef' adds a foodie to an adventuring D&D type adventure with pretty funny results.

Rutabaga and his travelling cooking pot, Pot, are in search of exotic ingredients. When a party of adventurers runs across him, he decides to join them with his huge portable kitchen strapped across his back, and his battle cry, "Let's Get Cooking!" they go in search of a dragon, and any exotic ingredients that Rutabaga can find. In the second adventure, Rutabaga gets hired to cook for a king's new pet, a strange lizard-like creature named Norman. In the final adventure, he ends up in a cookoff in a seedy bar against a cook who only cooks up gruel.

It's fun and the strange ingredients and odd recipes only add to the humor. The art is black and white and it's

a little on the rough side, but I liked it. It might be a bit on the violent side for younger readers (one character is beheaded), but it's a good concept and I enjoyed meeting Rutabaga and Pot and I hope they have more adventures.

I received a review copy of this graphic novel from Abrams, Amulet Books, and NetGalley in exchange for an honest review. Thank you for allowing me to review this graphic novel.

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### **Paula says**

This is a promising first volume in a debut manga-inspired graphic novel series set in an unnamed, medieval fantasy world populated by dragons, vikings, spooky squash, a newt-like somnivore named Norman, and the giant Korkanis. Sound strange? It is, but it somehow works. Readers will have no trouble assimilating to this strange new world, nor to it's unlikely hero - a short, bald adventure chef named Rutabaga - who along with his trusty (animated) cooking pot are on a quest to defeat a dragon, find monsters to have for and/or to dinner, discover new ingredients, and save the day through tasty food. The panels are clean and easy to follow, the artwork is entertaining - capturing the full range of Rutabaga's emotions and folly, and the storyline is full of humor and adventure, as Rutabaga bumbles his way through each episode. Hand this to young readers who are fans of Adventure Time or are ready to graduate from Babymouse and Squish. Includes two real-world recipes for young, adventurous foodies to try out - with a note to seek out a grown-ups help if allergic to peanuts. Highly recommended.

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### **Kristina says**

Taking a look at what my son was reading. This is a cute story about a boy chef, his magical pot and the adventures they take looking for new ingredients.

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### **Marisa says**

This book is hilariously awesome. Rather than following a typical adventure-seeker, Rutabaga is an "adventure chef". He travels high and low searching for unique ingredients, which often plops him in the middle of real adventure itself! I will absolutely be following up on some of Rutabaga's future trips.

Throughout the book, Rutabaga's recipes are listed as if in a real cookbook. This is a fun and unusual aspect of the book that changed it up and kept it interesting. As a bonus for young readers, there are some unique recipes in the back of the book from items you could find at a typical grocery store (no adventuring required!). This would be a great way to get young readers interested in cooking. Highly recommended!

Who should read it? Middle grade and cooking fiends!

See all my reviews and more at [www.ReadingToDistraction.com](http://www.ReadingToDistraction.com) or @Read2Distract

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### **Jason says**

I was pleasantly surprised. Rutabaga is a unique kind of fantasy hero because of his atypical skill set. He hides while the warriors do battle, and then cooks them all a wonderful meal afterwards. But he's never portrayed as weak or cowardly. He knows his strengths and will readily jump into an adventure that will put them to good use. Plus all the characters overreact to pretty much everything and it's adorable. This looks to be a great start to a series for kids who don't see themselves as the bravest or strongest. Because of Rutabaga, they now have a hero to look up to.

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### **First Second Books says**

This book is delightful and adorable!

Who doesn't love the fantasy-adventure traveling chef? Especially when he's occasional the one to save the day through his amazing cooking prowess?

This is a book for everyone who secretly wants to go on a quest . . . but still wants delicious food along the way!

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### **Alisha says**

Recommended for a D&D group with a chef in the party. This book was really cute and I loved the colorful pictures. Now I'm going to look up the rules for an enchanted pot companion.

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### **Crys Jackson says**

This was super cute, and I loved the fantasy food ingredients. I would love to have a D&D character like Rutabaga!

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### **Rachelle Kirby says**

Very Cute, perfect for foodies like me. Perfect size for my toddlers little hands. Perfect or my teens. Perfect for everyone. I'll be reading this to my toddler when he is a little older. Fun story with bright illustrations.

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### **Cameron Chaney says**

I picked this graphic novel up today while working on the Bookmobile, reading bits when I had a chance. It's

very popular with kids and the colorful cover caught my eye. I wasn't sure if it'd be any good, but I enjoyed it from the minute I opened it. **A graphic novel that combines fantasy, humor, and a love for food? Yes, please!**

*Rutabaga* is quite hilarious and very adorable. The art style is fun, as it seemed to mix different aspects of Internet imagery.

Also, I found myself identifying with Rutabaga's love of foods very much. Like the character, I have a hard time resisting the stuff. Especially desserts. It's my sweet downfall.

*Rutabaga, the Adventure Chef* is just a cute, fun, and quirky little adventure. I'm looking forward to reading volume two as soon as the Bookmobile gets it!

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