



Gabby Duran and the Unsittables

Elise Allen, Daryle Conners

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Case File: The First Unsittable Summary: The Association Linking Intergalactics and Earthlings (hereby known as A.L.I.E.N.) has a new member. After months of investigation, Gabby Duran, Associate 4118-25125A, has proven herself to be a babysitter extraordinaire. Her celebrity clients fly her around the country to care for their rambunctious little humans. Our spy, Associate 4118-23432B, otherwise known as Edwina, believes Gabby can be trusted with the truth: aliens are living among humans on Earth. And here at A.L.I.E.N we believe that even extraterrestrials need a babysitter now and then. No one was up to the task...until now. After accepting the top-secret position, Edwina has paired our new associate up with her first charge, a little girl from the planet Flarknartia. The timing for associate 4118-25125A is less than ideal. It's a school day on Planet Earth, Gabby's audition for the solo part in the band is tonight, and this tiny alien is a bit more than meets the eye. Can Gabby Duran, Associate 4118-25125A, First Sitter to the Unsittables, keep her otherworldly charge safe in the unpredictable halls of middle-school and keep A.L.I.E.N hidden?

Gabby Duran and the Unsittables Details

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From Reader Review Gabby Duran and the Unsittables for online ebook

NebraskaIcebergs says

Gabby Duran and the Unsittables introduces Gabby's family, friends, and enemies. Her mom is single and believes her husband lost in a war. Gabby has a younger sister who, although she lacks social skills and interprets every speech as literal, is super smart and handles all the family's finances and schedules. Best friend Zee is a mad scientist stuck in an adolescent body who would like nothing more than to analyze the aliens that Gabby meets. In contrast her musician friend Satchel remains blissfully ignorant even when Gabby's life is in danger. At the same time, Gabby's sworn enemy is zealously determined to get to the bottom of Gabby's secrets and to outplay Gabby in the school band. This initial title also introduces Edwina, Gabby's contact with alien parents. Edwina is uptight, primly-dressed, and no-nonsense. She's also totally confident of Gabby's abilities and deeply concerned about the safety of her alien charges. These charges come with some tall orders. For example, Gabby's first job is to care for a girl who is no larger than a garden gnome and who can transform herself into anything she wishes. Oh, and she's also in line for the throne for one of the plants, and so key to intergalactic peace.

Paula says

Totally entertaining, with a giant big dose of empathy.

Aeicha says

(this review is for books 1-3 as a whole)

Twelve year old Gabby Duran is a babysitter extraordinaire! In fact, she's such a fantastic babysitter that celebrities fly her all over the world to watch their kiddos...and her babysitting skills have been noticed by A.L.I.E.N. (The Association Linking Intergalactics and Earthlings), who recruit Gabby to watch alien children, who have been deemed "unsittable", because of their otherworldly appearances and abilities. Gabby, whose own little sister was deemed unsittable, eagerly agrees to work with A.L.I.E.N. and her liaison Edwina, and she and her two best friends (Zee and Satchel) quickly find themselves in out-of-this-world, outrageous, and sometimes downright perilous situations with her alien charges. But at the end of the day, Gabby knows that aliens or not, her charges are special and deserve to be treated just like any other fun-loving kids!

The Gabby Duran series, which currently includes Gabby Duran and the Unsittables, Troll Control, and Multiple Mayhem, is a fast-paced, fun series, full of quirky characters, wildly adventurous situations, cool technology, laugh-out-loud humor and dialogue, and charming storytelling.

Authors, Elise Allen and Daryle Conners take babysitting to a whole new intergalactic level and definitely bring the laughs, excitement, and heart! With a wonderfully imaginative plot (alien babysitting?!), irresistibly likable and engaging characters (humans and aliens alike), awesomely twisty and turny situations, and elements of STEM learning, these books will captivate, entertain, and inspire young readers.

I has such a blast reading this series, getting to know Gabby, Zee, Satchel, the alien kids, Edwina, and even snooty Madison, and joining them for three unforgettable and zany adventures!

Adriana says

Allen's story of a tween super-nanny that gets chosen to join an organization that helps Aliens find babysitters is very creative and easy to read. My 10 year old nice loved it and wants to read more. The things that happen to Gabby over the course of the book are an adventure that any kid would love to go on, while the friends and characters that populate it keep things light and at a great pace for younger readers. A detail that I really loved was that it doesn't talk down to younger readers by only using very simple language. There were times when we had to get a dictionary and look up words, but the interruptions did nothing to dissuade my niece from wanting to read what would happen next. I loved that.

Josh Newhouse says

Great adventure though a little predictable! Kids will love it! Men in Black meets middle school!

Ashlee Cornett says

Super cute book! Loved! It's like babysitters club but with aliens!

MAHS Library says

Very fun & what I would call a cute read. I describe the subject matter as a teenage, babysitting version of Men in Black.

Meredith Spidel says

Perfect read-together book or independent read for young elementary age kiddos. Thanks to Disney for sending us a review copy--we are so glad we found this fun series!

Erik This Kid Reviews Books says

Synopsis- Gabby Duran is a world famous babysitter. She has clients all over the world. But when Gabby gets approached by "Edwina" from the The Association Linking Intergalactics and Earthlings (A.L.I.E.N.) with a special offer, Gabby is reluctant to agree, even with the wages offered. She has other clients! Then Gabby realizes that, with this job, she will have clients that are out of this world! She learns that aliens live

on Earth alongside humans. They do a great job of blending in, but they need a babysitter who can be trusted. Babysitting aliens may be more than Gabby bargained for.

What I Thought- This was a great story about how you should go all in for what you like to do, and do it well. Gabby sacrificed her own free-time (and sometimes her safety) for other people. Gabby really is a role model. She's clever, fun, and plays an instrument in school band. The plot is exciting and full of twists and turns. I like the character of Lee, Gabby's best friend. She's an eccentric, smart, geeky inventor. The authors really capture the sense of realism, even in the midst of aliens. Their writing style kept me reading and offered a fresh twist on a babysitting story. Boys and girls will like this one. The book was funny, action-packed, and altogether a great read.

NOTE I got a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review

Sean Harding says

A largely forgettable book, the opening of a series, with a strange premise and a fairly dull execution, which seems to be evaporating from my memory very quickly, that could be old age or the fact that the story never really grabbed my attention.

Laura says

I only read the first chapter. I couldn't get into this book.

Sharie says

Really fun alien, young teen book. Absolutely nothing questionable about content (unless you're against aliens being on earth.)

Maria says

Cute and funny. A nice MG starter Scifi

Zara says

Fabulous read. Very entertaining. So funny, exciting, wacky, touching.

Ms. Yingling says

Gabby is such a good babysitter that movie stars will fly her to Florida to watch their children, so it's no

surprise when the mysterious Edwina shows up and offers Gabby an out-of-this-world babysitting opportunity... literally. Edwina is part of the Association Linking Intergalactics and Earthlings as Neighbors and needs someone who can babysit the children of visiting aliens. When Gabby does well with Philip, who is a giant, gelationous blob who just wants to be loved and played with, Edwina promises to keep in touch and line up other jobs for her. This is important to Gabby, because her mother is struggling to make ends with Gabby and her sister after the death of her father in the military when Gabby was quite young. Gabby plays the French horn, and would like to attend a good music school if her family could afford it, and she sees working for A.L.I.E.N. as her ticket to this life. When Edwina next materializes, she has Wutt, an alien princess, for Gabby to watch. The downside? Wutt is being targeted by an anti-alien group, and if anything happens to Wutt, her family might vaporize the Earth. No pressure, especially since Gabby has school as well as a concert to attend while tending to Wutt. Complications ensue when a substitute teacher seems to surmise Gabby's secret, and Wutt's safety is imperiled at every turn. Can Gabby keep herself and Wutt safe and be prepared for the French horn solo in the concert?

Strengths: This takes interests that many middle grade students have-- making money and babysitting-- and puts a humorous, frenetic twist on it. Gabby truly believes that no child, even an alien one, is "unsittable", and her techniques are admirable. The characters, from geeky sister to harried best friend to turn-coat school custodian, are multi-faceted and engaging. The action is nonstop, and there are great details (like Wutt turning into a goofy looking hat to evade detection) that will make this appealing to middle grade readers.

Weaknesses: Sometimes that action got a bit too goofy and over-the-top for me. Gabby's mother's brief appearance was hectic, and the confusion between the words "what" and "Wutt" reminded me of the Abbott and Costello "Who's On First" routine, but younger readers won't be familiar with that and will find the pacing to be perfect. (Remember, I adore Anne of Green Gables, and my students think it is WAY too slow!)
