

Ragweed

Avi

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A young mouse named Ragweed leaves his home in Dimwood Forest to arrive in a city run by cats. The cat in charge, a large Persian named Silversides and, her partner-in-crime, Graybar. After meeting some new friends, Ragweed and his new associates have to band together to rid the city of its feline curse. After vanquishing the enemy and helping his friends gain the freedom to express themselves through art and music, Ragweed moves on to explore the wider world.

I liked Clutch's spunky attitude and her earring and skateboard skills. I also liked her parents' love of art and the freedom they gave the daughter. I especially loved the club scene. I also felt for Blinker and loved that he got "adopted" in the end. Avi makes the mouse world come alive. There wasn't much to dislike except I was hoping for a romantic connection between Ragweed and Clutch although she was much more mature than him. It was better to let Ragweed move on.

I feel this book is appropriate for high elementary grades—4th, 5th. It's a great book to get from the library unless you plan on buying the whole set because you will get hooked on the characters. However, the covers on the issues I read would be worth the cost of buying the books as gifts. As I mentioned, Avi has a bunch of similar stories to enjoy. Here are the next in the series:

Recommended Titles:

Poppy by Avi

Poppy and Rye by Avi

Ereth's Birthday by Avi