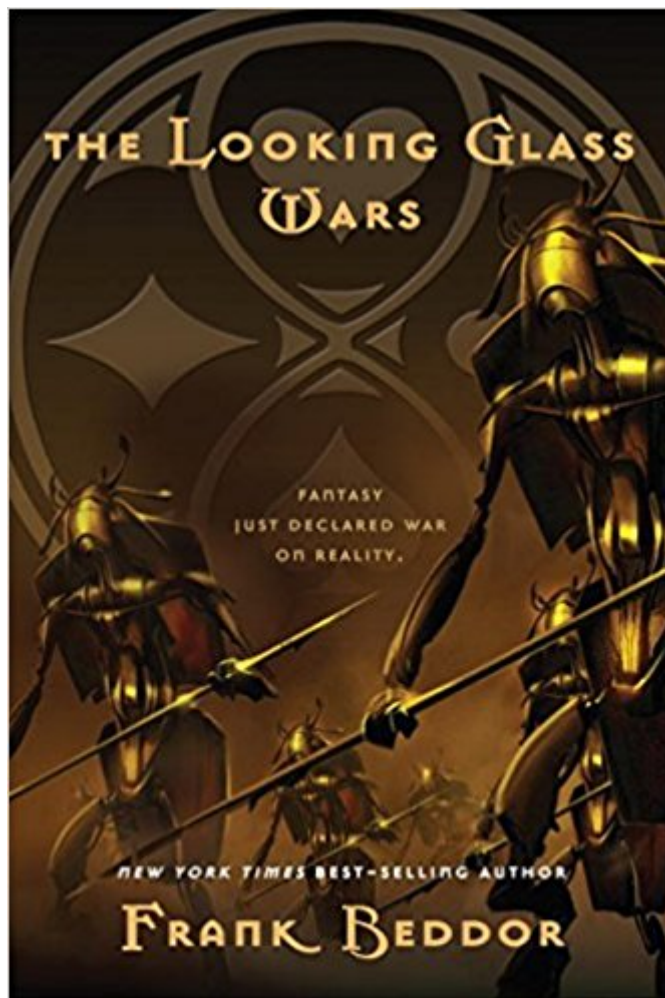


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# The Looking Glass Wars



## Synopsis

**The Myth:** Alice was an ordinary girl who stepped through the looking glass and entered a fairy-tale world invented by Lewis Carroll in his famous storybook. **The Truth:** Wonderland is real. Alyss Heart is the heir to the throne, until her murderous aunt Redd steals the crown and kills Alyss's parents. To escape Redd, Alyss and her bodyguard, Hatter Madigan, must flee to our world through the Pool of Tears. But in the pool Alyss and Hatter are separated. Lost and alone in Victorian London, Alyss is befriended by an aspiring author to whom she tells the violent, heartbreaking story of her young life. Yet he gets the story all wrong. Hatter Madigan knows the truth only too well, and he is searching every corner of our world to find the lost princess and return her to Wonderland so she may battle Redd for her rightful place as the Queen of Hearts.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1010 (What's this?)

Series: The Looking Glass Wars (Book 1)

Paperback: 400 pages

Publisher: Speak; Reprint edition (August 21, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0142409413

ISBN-13: 978-0142409411

Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 1 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 291 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #13,877 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #58 in Books > Teens > Science

Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Epic #186 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Action &

Adventure > Fantasy #458 in Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy >

Fantasy & Magic

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

Grade 4-7  
When her parents, the king and queen of Wonderland, are killed by her Aunt Redd, Alyss Heart escapes by jumping into the Pool of Tears. Her jump takes her to Victorian Oxford, where she emerges from a puddle, lives as a street urchin, and is eventually adopted by Reverend and Mrs. Liddell. Unable to make anyone believe her fantastic story, she finally confides

in Charles Dodgson, who says he will write a book about her. When she discovers that Alice's Adventures Underground is full of make-believe, and not her story or her real name, she sadly resigns herself to life as a Victorian girl of privilege. Meanwhile, back in Wonderland, the Alyssians form a resistance movement and attempt to overthrow the despotic Redd. For years, Hatter Madigan searches the world for Alyss so she can return to Wonderland as Queen. In the end, the Alyssians prevail, but only after much graphic bloodshed and many brutal battles involving card soldiers who transform into warriors, chessmen, blades that whirl and slash, vicious Jabberwocks, and even carnivorous roses. The tale is clever and flows like an animated film where action is more important than character development. However, it bears little resemblance to Lewis Carroll's original story. Beddor has usurped the characters and setting and changed them for his own purposes, keeping only the story's frame and not much of that. Still, the fantasy will appeal to those readers who like battles and weapons and good vs. evil on and on and on. -- Barbara Scotto, Michael Driscoll School, Brookline, MA Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

Alyss Heart, heir to the Wonderland throne, is forced to flee when her vicious aunt Redd murders her parents, the King and Queen of Hearts. She escapes through the Pool of Tears to Victorian London, but she finds she has no way home. Adopted by the Liddells, who christen her Alice Liddell and disapprove of her wild stories about Wonderland, Alyss begs Charles Dodgson to tell her real story. Even though he writes Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, she knows no one believes her. Years go by, with Alice repressing her memories. Then royal bodyguard Hatter Madigan, determined to start a war for Wonderland's throne, crashes her wedding. Beddor offers some intriguing reimaginings of Dodgson's concepts (such as looking-glass travel) and characters (the cat is an assassin with nine lives), but his transformation of Wonderland's lunacy into a workable world sometimes leads to stilted exposition on history, geography, and government. Even so, his attention has, happily, put Wonderland back on the map again. Krista Hutley Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

I am a huge Alice in Wonderland fan, and I just devour any book that take elements from the original story and run with it. Frank Beddor's Looking Glass Wars is a book that will work its way into your conscious and never leave. After reading this book you will crave more from this author, I know I do! The Wonderland he creates is nothing like the Wonderland we have come to know and love. It is darker, depressive, run down. Beddor's story played with the idea that Carroll had gotten his story

wrong and Looking Glass Wars is what really happened in Wonderland. It was an interesting idea, and while some Alice in Wonderland spin offs have fallen short of expectations, Beddor exceeded them..I cannot wait to read the second book in the series.To read the complete review visit <http://literarykat.blogspot.com/2015/12/looking-glass-wars-by-frank-beddor.html>

Bear with me a moment. Pretend that there was never a book titled "Alice in Wonderland". Treat "Looking Glass Wars" as just a stand-alone war/fantasy novel. Well, it's not very good. Characters are shallow, dialogue is leaden, plot is hackneyed. Lot's of beheadings and dismemberment, in a cartoonish sort of way. Each scene is brief and barely established. Weapons just appear out of thin air, characters keep arriving in the nick of time, all of the book's progress is sketchy and thin, almost like the outline of a book in progress. It's just not very satisfying, even as a middle-school type read. (Towards the end, if you just read a sentence or two every other page you'll finish without having missed anything.)But, the first 50 pages, where the connection is made with the original "Alice in Wonderland", is remarkably clever. The idea that "Alice ..." is a perverted, infantilized version of the true history of a parallel universe Wonderland, is just pure gold. And Beddor does a good job with that, mixing obvious and subtle references to the original "Alice ...".Unfortunately, after those first pages the connection to "Alice ..." is not further developed, and we are just stuck with the clumsy fantasy/actioner.So, well worth the effort to pick up a copy to read the beginning, but I'd skim the rest, (at least to pick up a few later riffs, like the stoned caterpillars), and skip the sequels.

Taking Alice in Wonderland & Through the Looking Glass as the premise for this trilogy, seemed such a good idea. On some levels it works, works well but at times there were scenes that just seemed to be glossed over, hurried with two dimensional characters (and I'm not referring to the playing cards). While others were rich in detail, characters fleshed out, believable.I really was looking forward to reading this and wanted to like it but I have to admit that it didn't completely satisfy or grab my undivided attention. There were so many opportunities for back stories with some depth but most, if given, were like throw away comments. Didn't feel for the characters as I normally would when engrossed in a novel. By the end of the book I felt let down.I'm in two minds about rating this, as the author showed touches of brilliance, when using or blending elements of the Alice books into a new and different world or worlds. Then he'd rush through pivotal moments and left you hurtling to the next crisis.I suppose what I'm trying to say is it could have been very good but the pace and depth were out of balance.

Great book! Couldn't put it down! Reminded me of Searching for Gold by M.P. Johnson. It had adventure, mystery, a love triangle, a real page turner that you won't be able to put down. I definitely recommend it too![https://www..com/gp/aw/d/0692580794/ref=tmm\\_pap\\_title\\_0?ie=UTF8&qid=&sr=](https://www..com/gp/aw/d/0692580794/ref=tmm_pap_title_0?ie=UTF8&qid=&sr=)

I have a new found favorite series. Of which I have shared numerous times with several different people. I now follow Frank Beddor on all social networks as well as own almost all his Hatter Comics. They are just as amazing as all 3 of his books. What you did twisting the story around that Alyss is from Wonderland was a great twist. Wow and such a powerful Battle between her and her Aunt. I cannot help but feel I was there for all of it. It was truly amazing. I don't think I can use the right words to give it the credit it is due. You change my whole way of thinking on this story. I love Alice In Wonderland. And out of all the retelling I have read this one was the best. All I can say is Wow. I was actually sad when the story ended.

Great book! I read it only because it was on my son's summer reading list, however, I thoroughly enjoyed it.

Great book for my niece. She really is enjoying and she loves the book! It was in great shape!

gift well recieved

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