

BOOK REVIEWS

Book One of The Yellow Hoods: Along Came a Wolf, by Adam Dreece

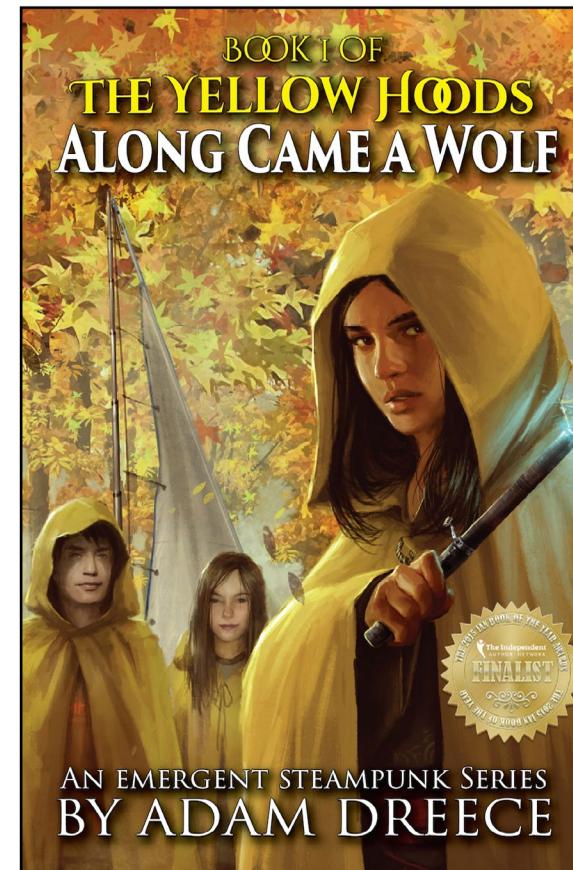
Review by Stella Constance

Adam Dreece's *Along Came a Wolf* (Book 1 of *The Yellow Hoods* series) is an enjoyable read for the entire family. It has received the Readers Favorite "5 Stars" award and was the finalist for Young Adult Book of the Year (2015) from the Independent Authors Network. The book is a timeless classic, where steampunk technological advancement and fairy tale character reassignment is seen. Dreece takes it to a fascinating level of imagination in an engaging way that challenges readers of what they think they know and what could be. It is rated ages 9 and up (because of some of the violent content in the book).

The story starts off with its central character, Tee, a teen adventurer, who is also a member of a secret club, The Yellow Hoods. Tee is heavily influenced by the works of her grandfather, Nikolas Klaus, a renowned inventor in the region and a member of the secret society, The Tub. Rumours spread about Klaus developing a revolutionary invention that could change transportation as they know it, of which a rival secret society is vying to get their hands on the plans. Intrigue follows, as Andre LeLoup has a run in with the Cochon brothers: Squeals, Bakon, and Bore. However, not all is as it seems, as readers find out later, as the true nature of each character is later revealed.

The story takes the readers on a rollercoaster ride of excitement. Tee, the heroine, who had earlier saved LeLoup

from the Cochon brothers becomes hunted, along with her grandfather, Klaus, and the Yellow Hoods. Interesting characters from the local town are infused into the story, such as the daughter of the Captain of the Guard and fresh guardsmen graduate, whose marksmen skills set her apart, as well as her quest for justice – and love. We also see the dynamics of family relations and their impact on character development, in evolving them into who they become by the choices they make. Dreece with great care and craft unfolds a story where destinies are chosen and created. *Along Came a Wolf* is a family classic novel that both children and adults will enjoy.



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