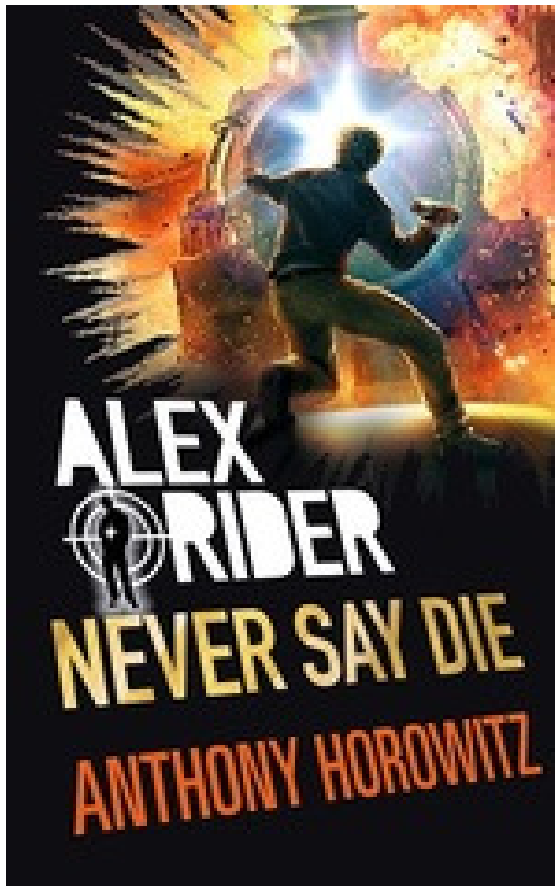


Helping you choose the best books for children



LoveReading4kids Reader reviews of **Alex Rider: Never say Die** by Anthony Horowitz

Below are the complete reviews, written by the LoveReading4kids members.



George Hutton - Dormston Secondary School

Alex Rider receives a suspicious email from who could be Jack Starbright who was kidnapped on his previous mission. However, whilst trying to locate Jack, he accidentally manages to get tangled up in another MI6 Mission which could put him and 52 innocent children at risk. But, with Alan Blunt no longer head of MI6 special operations, Mrs Jones is put under pressure to track down the impossible disappearance of a helicopter the height of a three-story building and the length of three London buses. MI6 jump to conclusions to try and complete this but don't realise they are making a huge mistake...

Teenagers with an interest of adventure and mystery/crime would definitely love this book. This book would also be of interest of people who enjoy undercover investigations of massive scale crimes.

I would recommend this book. I enjoy this series as even though these serious operations are taking place secretly, it is kept confidential to the rest of the world and it could have a major effect on them

Alexander Bisland, age 11

SPOILER ALERT: Do not read this book review until you have read all the other Alex Riders Books!

Alex Rider has moved to San Francisco following the death of his guardian Jack Starbright. But is she really dead? When one day he received a three word long email, he realises that Jack is alive.

The email is: 'Alexx I'm Al'

Alex is due to go on holiday soon but he tells his new guardians (his best friend's parents) that he is going to stay at home while they go on holiday. But he secretly flies to Egypt instead to see the place where Jack supposedly died. This leads him to France to find the Grimaldis but who are they and what do they want?

This is where the action starts.

I was really looking forward to this book because I really wanted to find out what happened to Jack. I read the book in 2 days as I couldn't put it down! If you are an Alex Rider fan, you should read this book as it won't disappoint you!

If you like action and spy books, I recommend this book to you!

This is my favourite book EVER and I wish it was made into a film. I hope Anthony Horowitz will write another book in this series.

I give it 1,000 stars!

Rosie Watch

Never have I had to read a book at such speed, not, surprisingly as my review was late, but because of the long line of keen readers in my class, desperate for the next book in the series. Prioritising was a struggle. As our school is in Suffolk, they were hooked from the first sentence. I think many of the Rider fans felt there were him and there from the start. Rider certainly has a following here.

*It was actually quite as easy book to read quickly as the pace and flow were excellent. **The story was action packed from the start, full of plots and fast moving action, though somehow despite all the action, it managed to remain descriptive, which I'm my mind is so important.** You could really picture the scenes in Cairo and France.*

What was noticeable in this book was the increased maturity in Alex. He is now

15 and his words, decisions and adventures reflect the step up in sophistication. I think the final chapter hints of a future book, fingers crossed.

Alex Sergeant, aged 11

Alex Rider is back in his newest thrilling adventure. We all thought Rider's story was over at the end of Scorpio Rising but he's returned in Never Say Die.

The story starts in San Francisco where Alex is living with the Pleasure family (that really is their name!), who are friends now looking after him following the death of his guardian, Jack Starbright. Alex is finding it hard to adjust to his new life but then he gets a mysterious email made up of three words: Alexx I'm al.

Alex immediately thinks the message was cut off and should have been 'Alexx I'm alive.' Could it mean that Jack is alive after all? Alex wastes no time finding out who sent the email and why. This leads him back to Egypt, on to the south of France and finally back to England on a gripping adventure.

I really enjoyed this book and thought it was a great continuation of the series we all know and love. It's well written and fast-paced with many action-packed scenes. My favourite part was when Alex sneaks on board the yacht Quicksilver where he sets lots of traps to outsmart the enemy mercenaries. It's funny, clever and exciting.

My one criticism is that Alex's character didn't really develop much through the story and seeing that he now knows all about his family history including his father, godfather and the assassin Yasin Gregovitch there was nothing left to learn and the author didn't introduce any character changes, though this didn't spoil my overall enjoyment of the book.

I recommend this book to anyone who has been reading the Alex Rider series for a while and has been waiting for the latest instalment.

Simon Longlands, age 13

Great sequel to the last 10 Alex Rider books. You would probably want to read the first nine books to really understand it. (Number 10 is a stand alone prequel). Great for anyone who likes action stories.

Toby Little, age 9

I really think you should read this book. Alex is an enthusiastic, adventurous, brave and clever agent, who “Never Says Die”.

Alex Rider goes on another tremendously dangerous case. “Never Say Die” means “Don’t Give Up”, and in this book, Alex has to solve a big mystery, and he won’t give up! Is Jack alive? Alex Rider is in America with his foster family. He suddenly gets an email that he guesses might be from Jack Starbright...or is it? He gets the first flight to Cairo and then goes to Siwa, where he goes back to his and Jack’s cell, looking for clues. Will SCORPIA fail again?

***This book is brilliant**, because Anthony Horowitz puts lots of information about places in the sentences, so you can actually picture it as though it were real. **At one point, I thought I was watching a film in my head, that’s how clearly I could see things.** My favourite setting is Smoke City, but I’m not telling you what that is, because I really think you should read the book. Alex is an enthusiastic, adventurous, brave and clever agent, who “Never Says Die”.*

This book would be suitable for 10-12 year-olds, but I really enjoyed it, too!

Twitter @tobyiswriting

Alex, age 11

A book of action and adventure, it didn't disappoint! Alex Rider is on another mission to discover whether his friend & carer Jack Starbright is still alive, whilst saving 52 kidnapped kids!

***A book of action and adventure, it didn't disappoint! I read it cover to cover without putting it down.** Alex Rider is on another mission to discover whether his friend and carer Jack Starbright is still alive, after he was told that she had suffered a tragic death. Whilst looking for clues of Jack's survival Alex once again must save people. This time 52 children with parents that are super rich. When the children are kidnapped, Alex stows away on vehicles to find them and once again become their only hope.*

Jamie Bamford, age 13

‘Never Say Die’ by Anthony Horowitz is the latest book in the Alex Rider series. I have read all the other Alex Rider books and absolutely loved them and this one did not disappoint.

*With new twist and turns every time you turn a page **this book grabs hold of you tightly, reels you in and before you know it you're stuck in the wonderful world that Anthony Horowitz has so brilliantly created.** I would definitely recommend this book to anyone who has read the previous books in the series and anyone who just really wants to read a great book.*

Twitter @jimjamarama

Alice East, age 12

'Never say Die' is the newest book in the exiting, action packed Alex Rider series. This time Alex is on a mission to find Jack Starbright; Alex's nearest thing to family.

In this book Alex is on a mission to find Jack Starbright who Alex was made to watch be killed. But was it all a trick, is she really still alive? Alex daringly sets out to find Jack, she is like family to him.

*I personally thought that this book was fantastic, gripping and full of suspense that just made you read on and on. **Whenever I had a spare moment instead of doing other fun things I would read this book; it was that good.** This was easy to understand with action as well as description.*

I would recommend this thrilling book to anyone who has read the Alex Rider series or anything by Anthony Horowitz, this (yet again) was another great read by Anthony Horowitz. I hope he will write an Alex rider book, definitely 10/10 and recommend it to about 8-14.

Ross Dawson age 13

Teenager takes on adult adventures and faces death several times. Luckily ingenuity, intelligence and courage save the day. Fans of the Alex Rider series won't be disappointed – I know I wasn't!

*Following on from the previous book, Alex Rider now lives a normal life in America after his best friend and carer Jack, is presumed dead. But once he receives three words on his laptop, which he believes are from Jack, everything changes... He then embarks on an epic journey with new enemies, dangerous situations and a mystery to solve. **Fans of the Alex Rider series will not be disappointed with this book, as it is every bit as thrilling as I'd hoped.** Throughout the story, Alex repeatedly manages to escape from death defying circumstances in ingenious and unexpected ways. His adventures seem*

more like those of an adult, than a teenage boy, but that is what makes him so appealing as a character. Just when you think Alex will never solve a problem and you think he's sure to die, the plot changes and things work out. As the title says 'Never Say Die'!

Sam Harper, age 12

Alex is tested to the limit in his most thrilling adventure yet, packed full of action, excitement, old friends and allies. Alex is most definitely back and I promise you will not be disappointed.

One month after the catastrophic events of 'Scorpia Rising', Alex is living his life as a member of the Pleasure family in America. He is still devastated by the loss of his closest friend, Jack, but otherwise he is trying to lead a fairly normal life. That is until he receives a shocking email that makes him doubt what he saw with his own eyes. Could Jack actually be alive? Returning to the last place he saw her, Alex hunts for traces of Jack in Egypt and when he finds the mysterious word 'Grimaldi' scrawled on the wall of her holding cell he is able to persuade the Egyptian Secret Service to assist him in his search. With their help he eventually locates the source of the email. Alex follows the trail to a yacht in the South of France but a shootout leaves him with only one lead, Dragana Novak. She was shot in the shoulder and taken to hospital where she is visited by a pair of identical twins. Alex sees his chance to stay on Jack's trail and hides out in their car so that he'll be taken to their house but he has no idea what he will find when he gets there or even if he will make it out alive. Alex must use all of his skills to survive. He has to discover who is behind operation Steel Claw and, more importantly, whether it will lead him to Jack.

Driven by his need to find his friend, Alex is on an emotional roller coaster in his most thrilling adventure yet. It's packed full of action, excitement and old friends and allies who return to help him. His search leads him around the world, tests him to the limit and ends in an incredible climax. Alex is most definitely back and I promise you will not be disappointed.

Tomasz Hawryszczuk, age 12

One of the best series of books ever written in my opinion. Once you start reading, you can't put it down. If you like fast paced adventure stories with edge of your seat writing - this is for you!

I was so excited to get the chance to review this. I thought I was done reading

Alex Rider but am so happy that Anthony Horowitz decided that he wasn't finished writing about my favourite teenage spy. This book will certainly not disappoint any old fans of Alex Rider and will hopefully grab the attention of new ones too. Alex is back with a bang. Explosive reading at its best. Lots of Cryptic clues to follow. One big one which makes Alex think that Jack could still be alive! Is she? You will have to read the book to find out! A fabulous adventure which would appeal to anyone over the age of 9 in my opinion. This is the 11th book in the series and probably one of the best. Maybe it's just because I missed reading about Alex! If you haven't read any Alex Rider books then I would suggest you start at book one. I'm sure you will then be hooked (as I was). Highly recommend this and give it 10/10 on so many levels. Thank you!