



# Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Book?

*By Lauren Child*

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## Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Book? By Lauren Child

Herb never imagined the dangers when he decided to scribble on and cut up his book of fairy tales. Drawing mustaches on the characters, pasting telephones into the rooms, and cutting out Prince Charming and the royal thrones had seemed like good fun. But then Herb never imagined he'd fall into the book one night. After contending with a petulant Goldilocks, a very angry wicked stepmother, and a disappointed Cinderella, all Herb wants to do is find his way off the page. If only he can escape the book, he can make everything happily ever after again... sort of. With exuberant collage illustrations and a hilarious text, award-winning author and illustrator Lauren Child has created a wild and irreverent romp through the land of fairy tales.

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## Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Book? By Lauren Child Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #112105 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Disney-Hyperion
- Published on: 2003-09-01
- Released on: 2003-10-02
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 12.00" h x .50" w x 10.13" l,
- Binding: Hardcover
- 36 pages

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## Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 1-3-When Herb falls asleep with his head on top of a dusty book of fairy tales, he finds himself stuck inside the volume with no quick way out. Chased by a raging Goldilocks, who is upset that he landed in her story, the boy journeys through a parade of fairy tales and finally gets caught in the middle of "Cinderella." All of his past mishandling of the book comes back to haunt him-Cinderella's kitchen is sticky with cookie crumbs, the Queen does not appreciate the mustache Herb has drawn on her face, and Prince Charming has been missing since he was cut out of the book and used as a birthday-card decoration. Child's wildly expressive collages include boldly patterned backgrounds, cartoon characters, and photographs in unexpected places. The text (and font) grows and shrinks and winds jaggedly through the story, and turns upside down on several pages. This fast-paced creative tale has some really funny moments. However, children may find it a bit frenetic. While Child's "Clarice Bean" titles (Candlewick) are grounded by that strong, familiar central character, here the disparate elements of the story sometimes feel as if they are literally flying off the edges of the pages.

*Shelley B. Sutherland, Niles Public Library District, IL*

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From [Booklist](#)

K-Gr. 3. Here's a book with a message that librarians can get behind. It's about fairy-tale characters who berate their storybook's owner for having defaced its pages. The game is up when Herb, the same googly-eyed boy from Child's *Beware of the Storybook Wolves* (2003), dozes off while reading and tumbles right into the story. As he meets its disgruntled characters, their doodled moustaches and other incongruities jog his memory of a time, "long, long ago," when he had treated this book not so kindly. Guilty as charged, Herb pulls some stunts worthy of Harold and his purple crayon, then sets things to rights. Crazily collaged artwork, freewheeling typefaces, and a pull-out spread of Cinderella's ball (minus Cinderella and Prince Charming--guess who's to blame?) contribute to the sense of reigning mayhem. Children old enough to grasp the play on books as both physical objects and repositories of story will enjoy this; perhaps they'll even be less apt to give their own books (or borrowed ones) the personal treatment. *Jennifer Mattson*

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## Review

Books are at the mercy of their owners, but careless Herb, who has defaced his fairytale collection with scissors and pencil, finds the traditional characters taking revenge... a more robust tale than last year's Kate Greenaway medal winner. -- TES TEACHER 20020510 Lauren Child returns to the endlessly malleable world of fairy tale characters. Her spiky style and confident handling of the source material creates a book which is more of a literary event than a quiet read. ... fabulous mix of collage, line drawings, photography and wacky typography -- Lindsay Fraser, Glasgow Sunday Herald 20020510 Herb is back and has fallen into a storybook. A thrilling story to scare your socks off, and another sharp look at the fine line between stories and the real world. -- Children's Buyers Guide - Autumn Books 20020510 Very, very funny and definitely not to be missed! -- Bfk 20030101 wonderfully imaginative ... Absorbing and with fantastical, zany pictures -- The Observer 20021201

## Users Review

From reader reviews:

**Tonya Hooper:**

Nowadays reading books be a little more than want or need but also become a life style. This reading habit give you lot of advantages. The benefits you got of course the knowledge the particular information inside the book this improve your knowledge and information. The details you get based on what kind of book you read, if you want send more knowledge just go with education books but if you want feel happy read one with theme for entertaining for example comic or novel. The particular Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Book? is kind of book which is giving the reader capricious experience.

**Louie Thompson:**

Do you really one of the book lovers? If yes, do you ever feeling doubt if you are in the book store? Try to pick one book that you find out the inside because don't assess book by its cover may doesn't work is difficult job because you are scared that the inside maybe not because fantastic as in the outside seem likes. Maybe you answer may be Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Book? why because the excellent cover that make you consider with regards to the content will not disappoint a person. The inside or content is fantastic as the outside as well as cover. Your reading sixth sense will directly show you to pick up this book.

**Robert Bell:**

In this period globalization it is important to someone to acquire information. The information will make a professional understand the condition of the world. The fitness of the world makes the information better to share. You can find a lot of personal references to get information example: internet, paper, book, and soon. You can view that now, a lot of publisher that print many kinds of book. Typically the book that recommended for you is Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Book? this book consist a lot of the information in the condition of this world now. This specific book was represented just how can the world has grown up. The language styles that writer make usage of to explain it is easy to understand. Often the writer made some exploration when he makes this book. That's why this book suited all of you.

**Susan Bannister:**

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