



Hagurosan

Darren Shan

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When Hagurosan is told to take an offering to the shrine, he reluctantly begins his trek up the mountain. But when he gets hungry and eats the cake meant for the spirits, things take a turn that no one could have expected. Now Hagurosan must face the consequences of his actions.

Terrific adventure from a master of fantasy. Particularly suitable for struggling, reluctant and dyslexic readers of 8+

Hagurosan Details

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Author : Darren Shan

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Sweet, quick little story which tugs at the heartstrings. A lovely message.

Dan says

A different type of book from the master of horror which although features supernatural elements is a Japanese folk tale rather than a horror story. Hagurosan is sent by his mother to give some cake to the mountain spirits but during his journey he gets peckish. Before he knows it the cake has gone and he has to visit the spirits empty-handed, which they are not going to like.

It is an interesting story which really does feel like a genuine classic folk tale, rather than a story by a modern author. With haikus at the start of each chapter, this 64-page book shows us all of Hagurosan's life and is a sweet tale.

My one issue was that I couldn't really work out the moral of the story. The blurb makes it sound like it is a message about being greedy but given the ending it isn't really about that. It talks about the after-life and gives a suggestion on what happens. As someone who doesn't believe in such things as an after-life I found it quite difficult to except and given that part is the climax which ends the tale it disappointed me a little. I feel your enjoyment is probably increased if you do believe in some form of after-life.

A decent gore-free little story that feels like it was written hundreds of years ago, and I mean that as a good thing!

Mission Blue says

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