



The Day Louis Got Eaten

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When Louis gets eaten up by a Gulper, his big sister Sarah knows she has to act fast, and sets off in hot pursuit. But rescuing a boy from a Gulper's tummy isn't so simple - especially when other strange and scary creatures are looking for their dinner too. . .

The Day Louis Got Eaten Details

Date : Published August 4th 2011 by Andersen (first published 2011)

ISBN : 9781849390156

Author : John Fardell

Format : Hardcover 32 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Humor, Adventure, Storytime

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From Reader Review *The Day Louis Got Eaten* for online ebook

Mish says

I'm a preschool teacher and I read this book to my kindergarten kids. They absolutely LOVED it. I've been asked to read it again so many times that I've memorised all the words.

Elyssa says

Pairing and Overview: I paired *The Day Louis Got Eaten* with *Warehouse 13* because both have strong female protagonists and fun, fantasy themes. They also both deal with peer/sibling relationships, inventions, and problem-solving in order to find a solution to a given situation.

Book citation: Fardell, John. *The Day Louis Got Eaten*. American ed. Minneapolis: Andersen Press USA, 2012. Print.

Audience: Since this is a picture book, this could be read to students from elementary to high school to highlight different important topics. However, it could be very effective if used in a Biology, Earth Science, or other science-based class. Though it is aimed to be fun and silly, a teacher could definitely use it to lighten up some curriculum topics and illustrate how even older students can benefit from the use of picture books in the classroom.

Selection Criteria: Though intended for younger audiences, this book could be a great classroom read for science students to connect with the topic of food webs and predator/prey relationships. The creatures in the story have an obvious hierarchy among them to create a food chain and the sister of the main character has a great propensity for invention in the modifications she makes to her bike to save her little brother. A strong female protagonist is a great tool to be able to use in any classroom to show all students that girls can be heroes too. Teachers could have students create their own inventions to solve the problem of Louis being eaten, or perhaps discuss why they think the food chain goes the way it does in the story. There is also a strong message about family and doing anything to help one another that is important for students of all ages. Older students could definitely relate to the theme of having a younger sibling or family member get into trouble and having to save them, or even needing a family member to save them. The illustrations are also bright, fun, and well done which would appeal to potential readers.

Review source: Boudreau, Tanya. "The Day Louis Got Eaten." *School Library Journal* 58.9 (2012): 114. Academic Search Complete. Web. 22 July 2013.

SOL connection:

LS.6 The student will investigate and understand that organisms within an ecosystem are dependent on one another and on nonliving components of the environment. Key concepts include

- b) interactions resulting in a flow of energy and matter throughout the system;
- d) energy flow in food webs and energy pyramids.

LS.8 The student will investigate and understand interactions among populations in a biological community. Key concepts include

- a) the relationships among producers, consumers, and decomposers in food webs;
- b) the relationship between predators and prey;

c) competition and cooperation;

Family Life 7.1 The student will identify his or her role and relationships within the family.

Descriptive Statement: Content includes identification of personal interactions; communication skills; ways of meeting emotional, physical, and intellectual needs; and the student's contribution to the family unit. Students learn the positive benefits of personal sacrifice to support family goals and needs when such a decision is indicated.

Ordering information: Fardell, John. *The Day Louis Got Eaten*. illus. by author. 32p. Andersen Press. Sept. 2012. Tr \$16.95. ISBN 978-1-4677-0315-4;ebook \$12.95. ISBN 978-1-4677-0321-5.

Mikael Cerbing says

The 3.5 years old little man at home LOVED this book. We have not read anything else for the last three weeks. And he brought it with him to bed, and to breakfast, and talks about it quite a lot, and have now learned all the names of the different monsters. And whats not to love? Nice cartoonish drawings of monsters with a lot of details to discuss, quick paced, pageturners on most pages and so on and so forth. An easy five star book for the Young rewier.

Jc says

Not really sure what message I am supposed to get from the book.

Tasha says

When Louis and his big sister, Sarah, were out in the woods, Louis got eaten by a Gulper. Sarah didn't panic, she got something she thought she might need and rode after them. But just as she had almost caught them, the Gulper was eaten by a Grabular. Sarah continued to follow but just as she almost reached the Grabular, it was eaten by an Undersnatch. The Undersnatch was eaten by a Spiney-backed Guzzler. The Guzzler was eaten by a Yumper. Sarah approached the Yumper as it slept, but how in the world was she going to save Louis?

Fardell delights in the ridiculous here and young audiences will too. The series of monsters that feast on one another makes for a very silly read, each monster more strange than the last and larger too. Sarah is a wonderful heroine and really the main character of the book. As she chases the monsters, she slowly converts her bicycle into a new and amazing contraption that can paddle on water, run underwater, zoom with the wind, or even walk on stick legs. She's not only resourceful but she remains calm too.

Fardell's illustrations are detailed and wonderful. He makes each monster unique and intriguing. The illustrations are done in pen and ink and watercolor. Fardell manages to get such detail in his illustrations that it's a real surprise when the monsters appear against such a realistic background. At the same time, the detail doesn't remove any of the playfulness. It just makes the illustrations all the more fun to linger with.

An ideal read-aloud, this book is one of those that you can use to settle wiggly kids. They won't be able to

resist the storyline, the monsters, and a great ending. Appropriate for ages 3-6.

Nicola says

Fun and silly! It reminds me of the nursery rhyme 'There was an old woman who swallowed a flea...'

I liked the different inventions and Miss 4 liked tracing the path to Louis through all the swallowed creatures.

Miss 4 and I like to explore different books and authors at the library, sometimes around particular topics or themes. We try to get different ones out every week or so; it's fun for both of us to have the variety and to look at a mix of new & favourite authors.

Kati says

Fun story about the lengths a big sister will go to in order to save her younger brother from a great gulper! She's a very creative individual.

Megan Cureton says

Louis and his big sister Sarah were out in the woods, when suddenly a Gulper ate Louis up. Sarah didn't panic, she knew that Gulper's usually swallow their food whole and there might be a chance to get Louis back out. She set out to chase the Gulper and as soon as she caught up, a Grabular swooped in and ate the Gulper which had Louis inside. When she got to the Grabular's nest, an Undersnatch came and swallowed the Grabular. So Sarah had no choice but to swim underwater and chase the Undersnatch when suddenly, it was eaten by a Spiney-backed Guzzler. Sarah almost caught up to the Guzzler when Saber-toothed Yumper ate him up. Sarah finally managed to get to Yumper's lair, and waited until it was asleep. She climbed in and entered all the creatures stomachs, until she had reached Louis. Thankfully, Sarah had a hiccup frog in her backpack and bounced it off the Gulper's stomach walls. Eventually the Yumper hiccupped and all the creatures, including Louis and Sarah came flying out. They circled around Sarah wanting to eat her up, but Louis yelled, "Get away from my sister, or I'll eat you up!" So the creatures fled and Louis and Sarah headed home. I enjoyed reading along in this adventurous filled book. It had me wanting to read more to find out what is going to happen to Louis, and if Sarah could ever catch up and finally save Louis. I think this book would be better in a classroom library for classes that understand it is not real, and wouldn't get scared that one of these creatures could eat them. That is really the only thing I worry about when considering putting this book in a classroom library. Also, I don't want them getting scared and having nightmares that these creatures are going to come and eat them up. That is the only thing you have to make sure that your students know it is not real and that it couldn't happen in real life. I do appreciate the illustrations in this book. I think that they are very detailed and follow the text on every page very well. I also like that they look hand drawn and the color choice is very soft and not too bold where they take away from the text or the illustrations in general. I think that this story could also help readers that are still struggling with reading because there is repetition and from the pattern that has been occurring, you know that the next creature is going to get eaten by a new creature. This could also be a good book for making predictions and helping students think of what is going to happen next. I really enjoyed this book.

Sarah Kohn says

A fun book about a boy eaten by monsters, and is brave inventive sister who comes to his rescue!

Stephanie says

If you have a six-year-old in your life, you should really get this book! My six-year-old son ADORES it, and my husband and I love it, too. It's funny, clever, and exciting, there are fabulous details in the illustrations, and it reminds me in a very good way of Mercer Mayer's classic picturebooks *One Monster After Another* and *Professor Wormbog in Search for the Zipperump-a-Zoo* (two books that both my son and I adore). It has really lit up my son's imagination - he's drawing picture after picture right now of the creatures in the book and other creatures that might exist in their world.

We checked out a copy from the library, but my son is so in love with it, he's asked us to buy a copy to keep, and we absolutely will. It's one I'm looking forward to sharing with my younger son, too, when he's old enough, and it's definitely one of the select picturebooks that we'll be saving to pass on to any grandchildren afterwards.

Santiago Eximeno says

Uno de los mejores libros infantiles que he leído en mi vida adulta. Qué pequeña maravilla monstruosa.

John Greenwood says

Good fun children's book, my 4 year old loves this one - we read it four nights in a row!

Joanna Norland says

I borrowed 'Louis' from a library on the recommendation of Mr. B's Emporium of Reading Delights in Bath, and had the following delightful e-mail exchange with the author (reprinted here with his permission).

Dear Mr. Fardell,

Since the day Mog the Cat lost her toy bunny in the rain, my 4 y.o. daughter has resolutely refused to read any picture book with a hint of drama or danger.

Nonetheless, I borrowed 'Louis' from the library based on a friend's recommendation. Daughter spotted the hungry gulper on the cover and pushed it away, but my 9 y.o. son was so intrigued that he gave it a go -- and convinced her to let him read it to her.

I love your portrayal of sibling solidarity, and the resourcefulness of the characters. Their can-do attitude is a great antidote to my daughter's anxiety about stories with bumps in the road.

I'm hoping that this will encourage 4 y.o. to broaden her horizons, in fiction and in life -- and will check out your books for older kids for her bro.

Kind regards, and thank for your wonderful book,

Joanna Norland

Dear Joanna

Thank you so much for taking the trouble to send such a lovely email. I'm so glad you and your children have been enjoying 'Louis', and that it's been helping your daughter to find there can be enjoyment in dramatic and perilous narratives.

I do sympathise with her! I also had a low threshold for sadness in stories at her age, and for any scary stuff (and I'm much the same now!) Whereas if a story was funny, any amount of calamity or danger seemed fine.

That's lovely that your son enjoys reading to his younger sister, and has been able to reassure her regarding content. Well done him!

And thanks for the link to your blog [www.mumswrite.com]. Good luck with your own writing!

I'm working on another Louis and Sarah book at the moment, with further perils and challenges for both of them, so I had better get back to it.

All best wishes,

John

Ashley says

Imaginative monsters, creative bike modifications, reciprocal sibling heroism, and an awesome picture of crawling into a series of stomachs. What doesn't this book have? I read it for storytime, and it went well, but it would go even better as a book to read at home because the illustrations have lots of things you can talk about that aren't written down. I like that the girl is the main hero of the book, but her brother also gets his chance to step up and save her. That way, it's more about siblings looking out for each other than it is about a heroic boy or girl, and both boys and girls can identify with a same-gender hero in the book. Normally I wouldn't give a crap about kids having a same-gender hero, but more and more kids I talk to are giving boy or girl labels to what I thought were unisex stories, so I appreciate that this story has a hero for boy and girl listeners. I'm not doing it justice by analyzing it so hard. It's a fun, silly story with lots of adventure and ingenuity. One of the first books to be taken out after reading it at storytime.

Jennybeast says

I'm a big fan of picture books where someone gets eaten. I'm also a big fan of picture books with monsters with silly names. This one is excellent on both counts!
