



The Ghost in the Attic

Dori Hillestad Butler , Aurore Damant (Illustrations)

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A brand-new young chapter book series from Edgar Award winner Dori Hillestad Butler!

After successfully solving the mystery of the ghost in the library, Kaz and Claire land the first case for their detective agency--a haunted attic in a neighbor's home! With a little help from Grannie, Kaz and Claire discover that what appeared to be something spooky has a much simpler explanation.

The Ghost in the Attic Details

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Author : Dori Hillestad Butler , Aurore Damant (Illustrations)

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From Reader Review The Ghost in the Attic for online ebook

Stephanie (Reading is Better With Cupcakes) says

So much fun! I'm really enjoying this beginning chapter book series!

Barbara Schultz says

Second in the Haunted Library series. I enjoyed the first one so checked out this one. I love to read and my favorite genre is mystery. A mystery in a book story or a library is totally my kind of a book! Additionally I am not above reading an adorable children's book. [Author: Dori Hillestead Butler]'s description as well as Aurore Damant the illustrator on the book jacket are so very clever and yes adorable!

Michelle says

So cute! I am really enjoying these stories!

Jane Maple says

A woman calls C&K detectives to investigate ghostly noises in her attic. This book introduces us to the idea that ghosts can travel in water bottles when outside so they don't get blown away. This allows Claire to take Kaz (shrunk down in her water bottle) to the client's house. On the way to the house, Kaz comes across his dog Cosmo, who doesn't get along well with Claire's cat Thor. Claire and Kaz wonder if a neighbor boy named Eli has been causing the attic noises as a prank. But in the end it turns out a squirrel family is the source of the problem. When Claire gets back to the library she finds out her grandmother knows about Cosmo (he glowed) and her grandmother tells her when she was Claire's age she could see ghosts when they were not glowing. So Claire tells Grandma about Kaz and Beckett.

Kelsey Schense says

Summary:

In this series, "The Haunted Library," Claire is a "solid" and her family owns a library. One day a ghost names Kaz ventures in, and he is surprised when Claire can actually see him. Now Claire and Kaz must work together to find his family. In this specific book, "The Haunted Library: The Ghost in the Attic," Claire and Kaz set out to help Mrs. Beesley, a neighbor, find out who or what is haunting her attic. But going outdoors could be fatal for Kaz. Could it be one of Kaz's family members haunting Mrs. Beesley's attic, or maybe not a ghost at all? And will Kaz ever find the rest of his family? Read this book to find out.

Questions:

1. Explain what you would do if you thought there was a ghost haunting your attic? Would you be afraid?

Would you call for help? Etc.

2. Do you think Kaz will ever find the rest of his family? Why or why not?

3. The character Kaz in this book is a ghost who was blown away from his past “haunt” after the house was destroyed, along with the rest of his family. Now he does not know where everyone is. If you were Kaz, what would you do to find your family? Who would you befriend and what measure would you go to, to find them?

4. Grandma Karen explains at the end of the book that she too could see ghosts when she was a kid, but cannot anymore. Why do you think that is?

5. In the book, Claire and Kaz make a list of what they know so far to try and find out who or what is haunting Mrs. Beesley’s attic. What are three other circumstances that making a list of what you know so far will help you to find the solution of a problem or question?

Butler, D. H., & Damant, A. (2016). *The ghost in the attic*. New York: Scholastic, Inc.

Abbey says

I love this series--I'm growing especially fond of Grandma Karen, the kindly librarian with the pink stripe in her hair who eventually fesses up that she was able to see ghosts as a young girl.

In this book, Kaz is reunited with his dog Cosmo (an exceptionally talented ghost) and Claire and Kaz solve their first ghost mystery as detective partners. Also, they discover that Kaz is able to travel outside of the library, as long as he rides in Claire's water bottle, a la I Dream of Jeanie.

Linara Kolosov says

The Ghost in the Attic is the second book of The Haunted Library series by Dori Hillestad Butler. It has pretty greyscale illustrations and is divided into short chapters. I read the series to my 5-year-old boy and he enjoyed this book a lot. It was interesting to guess how Kaz is going to travel with Claire. It is great that the plotline is easy for a little kid to understand and provides an unexpected but reasonable ending at the same. Like with the first book it was interesting to look at the clues trying to guess what is really happening in the story. My boy was also happy when Kaz’s dog appeared and laughed like crazy when Cosmo was chasing Claire’s cat.

Short summary: Claire and Kaz opened their detective agency, but they have no clients until Claire’s parents, who are detectives, refuse to solve a case about the ghost in the attic. When Claire and Kaz arrive at the place they find Kaz’s dog Cosmo in the house. After some adventures with Kaz and Cosmo flying out of the window into the bus, all three safely reach the library. But the mystery is not solved; old lady still hears strange sounds and is sure that the ghost is still there. After being trapped in the attic Claire and Kaz suspect a boy who lives in the neighborhood, but the tiny black clues and acorns help them to find not one, but five little “ghosts”.

Rebecca says

Kaz is a young ghost who has been separated from his family. He now lives in the library, with his "solid" friend Claire, who can see and talk to ghosts. Claire's parents are detectives who think she isn't old enough to

detect, but she's determined to prove them wrong. She and Kaz form a detective agency to help people with ghost problems, since that's Kaz's specialty. Once Claire finds a way to transport Kaz safely (wind is a big problem for ghosts), they go to investigate a reported ghost in an attic. Along the way, Kaz thinks he sees a ghost he recognizes--his dog, Cosmo. Can they solve the mystery of the ghost in the attic? And can they get Cosmo back?

I didn't star this because the author is a friend, but this is such a fun series for kids. I love how they figured how to transport Kaz (in a water bottle, because he can shrink down), and how the story always stays true to its inner logic. There are lots of red herrings in this one, and the solution to the ghost in the attic is completely believable. And there's a twist in the end involving Claire's family, but I won't give it away!

Mary Ellen says

I'm reading this series with my 7 year old daughter. They are quick reads. We can usually get through one in an hour.

I like the characters in this series. They are kind children who are learning about each other's culture (ghosts and "solids"). I think the mystery of this book was kind of cute too.

Elfeeza Ul Haq says

This book has such a lovely and promising ending. I love the way Dori spreads out her content throughout the books so far. She's really good at keeping the series going. I'm enjoying this series so much right now I can't wait to read the next book. I have the next three books checked out from the library nearest to me this afternoon together with this one. And I already know one of my students' would love to read this series.

Kristine Hansen says

The search is on for Kaz's family - and the way to do it is simple. Claire has set up a Ghost Hunting Detective Agency. But their first case doesn't seem all that ghostlike.

I like this storyworld and premise so far. Fun series for young readers. :)

Aeicha says

Dori Hillestad Butler's new chapter book series, The Haunted Library, follows the mystery adventures of a ghost boy named Kaz and the human girl who can see him, Claire. When Kaz is blown away by the wind from his ghost family he ends up in a library. Claire lives above the library with her parents and Grandma. In book one, these two unlikely friends team up to solve the mystery of the ghost in the library, and in book two, The Ghost in the Attic, Kaz and Claire continue their ghost detecting in hopes of finding Kaz's family.

The Haunted Library is such a cute, entertaining series to read! Butler has created an exciting world full of whimsy, charming characters, laughs, compelling mystery, and great storytelling. With a sweet, pitch-perfect voice, fresh new take on ghosts, and easy readability, The Haunted Library will easily capture the attention and imagination of younger readers. Though filled with ghosties, there's nothing scary or frightening about this series; it's pure fun! With simple dialogue, easily followed storylines, age appropriate vocabulary and humor, these books are great for elementary school aged readers.

With plenty of rooms for haunting and places for mysteries to lurk, there's something so magical and exciting, yet comforting, about the library setting. Young readers will love exploring every nook and cranny with Kaz and Claire. And Kaz and Claire are both such adorable, likeable characters! Clever, brave, go-getters, these two new friends make an endearing pair. I really enjoyed joining Kaz and Claire on their mystery solving adventures!

I must also mention the awesome illustrations throughout the books! These delightful pictures perfectly capture the fun story.

My Final Thoughts: With amusing and imaginative storylines, exciting mystery adventures, and wonderful characters, The Haunted Library books are fun reads perfect for young chapter book readers.

Ray says

My daughter and I love this series. She bought the first one through her school library and enjoyed reading about Kaz (a ghost) and Claire (little girl). Kaz in book 1 is blown away from his haunt and his family into the library. Their Claire whom can see ghosts befriends him. Through their friendship they start an detective agency called C & K. They solve ghost mysteries. This being the second book of the series Kaz and Claire go on their first job to a woman's house whose attic is haunted or is it? A great chapter series that my daughter loves. She can't wait to read book 3. She keeps asking do you think he'll find his family? I can't wait to see what happens in the next book. Neither can I. This Christmas we will find out. It is already wrapped and sitting under the tree.

Pop Bop says

A Cheerful, Light-Hearted Friendship Tale

Claire lives with her Mom and Dad and Grandmother above the town library. Claire can see ghosts, including the ghosts who inhabit the library. A young boy ghost, Kaz, who became separated from his ghost family when their haunt was torn down, has taken up residence in the library and has become Claire's best friend. They have formed the C & K Ghost Detective Agency. There are now three books in the Haunted Library series, (of which this is the second). Each book is built around a ghost hunting mystery, and the series is tied together by Claire and Kaz's friendship and by Kaz's search for his missing family.

Heavily illustrated, the books are slightly advanced chapter books. The mysteries are straightforward and there is no scary stuff. This is pure "Casper the Friendly Ghost" territory. There aren't any villains and the most threatening ghosts are just, at most, grumpy.

That said, Claire is a pretty well constructed character for a chapter book heroine, and the relationship between the two kids is realistic and appealing. The mystery here, (is there a ghost in the neighbor's attic?), is

pretty challenging for a chapter book in that there are clues, Claire does a lot of logical thinking and reasoning, and there are even a few red herrings. Even at this level I think mysteries should be solved in traditional style, and not through hunches and coincidences, and this book honors all of the mystery conventions.

So, with appealing characters, a fun ghost angle, a bit of mystery, a convincing friendship, and a light and cheerful feel, this is a nice chapter book find.

Please note that I found this book while browsing my local library's Kindle ebook goodies. I have no connection at all to either the author or the publisher of this book.

Erica Sonzogni says

This is the second book in the haunted library series. It has many different plot lines (the ghost detectives, finding Kaz's dog, Cosmo, etc.) and all intertwined. Since not all of the plot lines were solved at the end of the book, and there was new information given about one of the characters, my students were in suspense and want to read the third book immediately. What an amazing series for this age group- I am recommending it to anyone with children around this age.
