



The Deadly 7

Garth Jennings

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When eleven-year-old Nelson's beloved older sister goes missing, he is devastated. She's his only friend and means the world to him. Then his parents join the search and leave Nelson in the care of his crazy uncle Pogo, a plumber who is working at St. Paul's Cathedral in London. There in a dusty crypt Nelson stumbles across an ancient machine that accidentally extracts the so-called seven deadly sins from his soul. The machine turns them into ugly, cantankerous, and embarrassing creatures who follow him everywhere. But there is more to these monsters than meets the eye, and in this off-the-wall debut novel about making friends and taking courage, Nelson finds that these strange newcomers are just the companions he needs for a quest across the globe to rescue his big sister.

The Deadly 7 Details

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Author : Garth Jennings

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From Reader Review The Deadly 7 for online ebook

Ro Menendez says

The story of Nelson and how he comes about having his very own seven monsters, The Deadly Seven, feels like something Dan Brown, author of The Da Vinci Code, would write if he wrote a MG novel. Nelson's monsters, are the seven deadly sins mentioned in the Bible, which were accidentally extracted from Nelson's soul when he falls over a contraption created by Sir Christopher Wren in his secret laboratory hidden in St. Paul's Cathedral. These monsters are not as scary as their backstory might have made them, and they are instrumental in helping Nelson find his sister, Celeste, who has been kidnapped and taken to a magical rain forest in Brazil. The story takes place in England, and is heavily peppered with British colloquialisms, foods, and humor, which some times may be lost on the reader (this reader included). The story is entertaining, the magical elements are believable and written logically so as to not create confusion. The monsters are funny and their personalities tailored to the sins they represent.

Alicea says

Alright, I'll admit it. I'm often drawn to a book because of its cover. There's nothing wrong with that. Why else would they hire people to make them attractive and spend so much time designing them to be eye-catching? And then there's the blurb on the back of the book. These can range from evocative, cringeworthy, perplexing, or in some cases spoiler-y. Even after reading the back of the book jacket of today's book and seeing the title and looking at the cover image I was still surprised to discover just what this book was about. Maybe you're all smarter than me. Can you guess what Deadly 7 by Garth Jennings is about just from the name? What if I told you that it was about a little boy who had 7 little monsters accompanying him on a rescue mission and each of them had a very separate personality? The main character of Deadly 7 is Nelson who comes across a machine which creates 7 monsters that only he can see. One is always sleeping, one is angry about pretty much everything, one keeps stealing everything in sight...have you figured out what they are yet? I almost hope you haven't because then I won't feel like such a dolt. This is Garth's debut novel but he's no stranger to writing as he was the genius behind the movie Sing. However, this book is pretty much nothing like that movie. This story feels like it could be rooted in our present but with a decided twist. There's an ever-present feeling of dread while flipping the pages of this book which honestly I think that a lot of kids feel at this age. Remember the anxiety and fear when you realized that you were changing and you didn't know into what? Jennings taps into that and uses the monsters as a way to illustrate it which I think is rather brilliant. I have to say that the plot of this is kinda all over the place but the writing is solid so I have hope that further books by him will be tightened up and be even better. Nonetheless, it was a quick read and entertaining and I think it would be a good springboard for conversation. It's a solid 6/10.

Cindy Mitchell *Kiss the Book* says

Jennings, Garth The Deadly 7, 340 pages. Giroux Books for Young Readers 2016.
\$13.99. Language: PG (6 swears, 0 "f"); Mature Content: G; Violence: PG.

Nelson Green's life will never be the same. While hiding in a box to avoid performing in his schools theatrical, Nelson overhears the worst news ever. His sister Celeste has gone missing while on a class trip. With authorities scouring the area for clues, Nelson decides to take matters into his own hands. Determined to find his sister and save her at any cost, Nelson enlists the help of seven deadly monsters. From a bed of

nails in St. Paul's Cathedral in London, to riding cows through the rainforests of Brazil, Nelson's journey to find his sister is an adventure he will never forget.

This quirky British tale was a blast to read. Nelson's outrageous escapades will have readers laughing out loud. With a young relatable male protagonist and a large dose of humor this book will appeal to a wide range of readers especially boys.

EL, MS -ADVISABLE. Gina, Media Specialist
<http://kissthebook.blogspot.com/2016/...>

Mohamed says

Really brings back that old-vibe style. The cover is quite what hooks readers into the book, nothing special, just something to entertain yourself while you are in the bathroom or something like that.

Abigail H. Leskey says

3.5 stars.

Ms. QMS Roberson says

Mysterious adventure for intermediate readers! I loved the sketches and lovable monsters.

RachyLou says

When I go book shopping, I mostly know what I'm going to buy before I step into the shop. Not because I am a control freak with a tendency to meticulous planning (who, me?), but because I pretty much know what the new releases are already. That's why I like it when my boyfriend comes along. He'll disappear into the children's section for a few minutes and then return brandishing books about evil mastermind cats, pirates that moonlight as ballet dancers, or - as in this case - seven little monsters.

After his parents go to Spain to try to find his big sister who has gone missing during a school trip, Nelson finds helping to fix the plumbing at St. Paul's Cathedral with his rather unusual Uncle Pogo. Whilst attempting to plug the leak, Nelson and Pogo stumble upon a hidden room containing a weird machine that extracts the seven deadly sins from inside Nelson and personifies them as seven individual, but equally hard to handle, little monsters all hell bent on finding Nelson's sister, Celeste. Using their bizarre tracking skills and unusual abilities to help them along the way, Nelson and the monsters set off on a journey around the world that leads to some strange discoveries about Nelson's family, but can they get to Celeste in time?

One of the things that I really love about this book is that Celeste is actually Nelson's older half sister. As a half sister myself with two little brothers, it was nice to see this relationship from their perspective. Obviously, it makes it even more appealing that Nelson worships the ground his sister walks on (as, of course, do my brothers!!), but it did make me appreciate how rare it is for this relationship to be covered in

children's books; it feels much less explored than the situation where the main character is the older sibling dealing with their Mum or Dad having more children in a second marriage. Granted, there's a lack of magical amulets, murderous twins, and tiny monsters in my family, but even so, it's always nice to find a premise you can really relate to in a book.

The other major plus point for me is (obviously), the monsters. Who wouldn't want seven smelly, greedy, funny, self serving monsters that only you can see following you around all day? I think a little more could have been done to exaggerate the personality of each monster and tie it into their own deadly sin, particularly to ensure that a child would be able to understand, but even so the characterisation was well done. I found the monsters pretty lovable, even when they were at their most gross!

The story was enjoyable and funny, full of ridiculous happenings in the way that any good sitcom should be. Given that Garth Jennings is a Hollywood movie Director, it isn't surprising that the plot feels very cinematic. The scenes fit nicely into the big screen time frames and descriptions feel akin to a camera panning across the view. The visualisation is helped along by lots of funny illustrations (also done by Garth Jennings).

The only negative I can find is that it felt a little like everything, including the kitchen sink, was thrown at the story. There was just a little bit too much going on, and because of this it felt like there wasn't time to go into some of the key plot points in enough detail and I struggled to keep up with what was going on.

I would totally recommend The Deadly 7 as a funny bedtime read full of heart.

Lisa says

The Seven Deadly Sins have come to life for Nelson in this story. Through a sad and strange set of circumstances Nelson finds himself working with his uncle in the tombs of a London cathedral. There he finds mysterious vials of ancient liquid. He is injected and his own 7 Deadly manifest and follow him. These monsters can only be seen by Nelson, and they are quite loyal to him. Their mission is to help Nelson find his missing sister. Many wicked plot twists and turns develop as something evil has entered Nelson's life. This book reminded me of the zany characterizations and plot developments that Terry Pratchett made famous in his books. Personally, I found it distracting, but for those who enjoy this style and humor this might be a good book for you. The pace was steady and the plot did make sense from the standpoint of the basic premise.

Alasia says

The deadly 7 is a good book based on the seven sins coming out of your body. I like the way the author wrote the monsters as sins but didn't do it in a too religious way. In the book a boy with no friends named Nelson sister disappears in Spain so when Nelson is with his uncle in St. Pauls Cathedral looking for leaks he comes across a machine that extracted his seven sins but the fault was that once extracted they became real life monsters. With these smelly monsters Nelson travels the globe in search for his sister. I would recommend this book to a friend because it's a very crazy and adventurous book

Sarah Churchill says

It's nice to read a middlegrade that's not overrun with poo and fart jokes. I mean, there is a fart joke, but just the one. And it actually has a place in the story. So... yeah.

Nelson accidentally extracts the 7 Deadly Sins from his soul with a machine made by Christopher Wren in St Paul's Cathedral. A little history there for the kids. And even though this is about the sins, and of course each one is the epitome of Gluttony, Wrath, Pride and all the rest, they're still friendly, and nice, and fun. It's not about preaching or teaching, it's about a boy going on an adventure with his sins to rescue his missing sister, and them all working together. And it's a heck of an adventure, with a little magic thrown in.

Tim Roast says

"The Deadly 7" is a book of two halves. The first half introduces all the characters and ideas that are essential to the very fast-paced, exciting and adventurous second-half of the book.

The ideas in this book are multiple. There is the "lost chamber of St Paul's", a hidden room that main character Nelson Green finds within St Paul's Cathedral where Christopher Wren has stored many of his as-yet-undiscovered inventions, one of which Nelson accidentally ends up using when he creates the Deadly 7 - seven monsters born from his soul, "one for each of the so-called seven deadly sins".

Then there is the River of Life - "the water is the pure source of all life"; Bang Stones - stones made from the Big Bang, "if you swallowed that stone and thought of where you wanted to be - bang - you were there," and a pendant that if "you poured all your love and hope into it could save someone's life." So the book is brimming with ideas (those mentioned and others).

Then there is the adventure element. Nelson Green is "an eleven-year-old boy with shaggy brown hair, wide chocolate-brown eyes and a single brown freckle on the tip of his nose." His sister, the "world's greatest big sister, sixteen-year-old Celeste" goes missing at the story's beginning on a school trip in Spain. Nelson's parents immediately go to Spain leaving Nelson in the care of Uncle Pogo, "a nutcase." Nelson is then roped in to finding a leak at St Paul's Cathedral by his uncle where they find the hidden chamber, and where Nelson falls on to a bed of nails that extracts the Deadly 7 from him, although he doesn't know it at first, only when they later track him down at his uncle's house.

The Deadly 7, monsters that only Nelson can see, are born from his soul so they feel his pain. "This pain... It will not go away for any of us until we find her." Thus the adventure begins with the monsters helping to locate Celeste to Brazil using their special power through "divining of the soul." However a trip to Brazil from England for an 11-year-old is anything but straightforward, even with 7 invisible monsters on your side. It is made even harder because "a very large man" with "bulging, milky eyes" is after him too.

So loads of ideas, lots of adventure and a very good story. Enjoy.

Angela says

A great rollicking story! Kids will love this hilarious adventure of a boy and his unpredictable, crazy, weird monster friends. And that's what they are, friends. They begin as a bother, a necessary nuisance for finding

his sister, but grow into something more. Since the seven monsters are all part of his soul and miss his sister passionately, they feel a pull towards wherever she is like a compass where his sister is the North. Unfortunately, where she is is halfway around the world! How can an unaccompanied eleven year old with no money and seven invisible, wildcard creatures travel that far and defeat the evil forces who have her? With plenty of close calls and laughs of course! I was thrilled with how inventive this story was. The personalities of the monsters and the way that the author managed to express their sin type in kid-appropriate ways were very unique. Lust (who like the others has another name), for instance, is able to make one woman turn away at a crucial moment because she is seized with a sudden longing to buy some boots she saw online--she just has to have them! Envy is a cactus-like creature whose quills have an amazing power and so on. There are tons of near misses as Nelson races to find his sister and is pursued by a sinister character. The pursuer and the rest of the kidnap team are truly creepy in a way that kids should really get into. The action builds to a fever pitch and the rescue is done in a great fashion. I think that the door is left open for for a sequel (which I would love). This is a perfect family or class read aloud and a good book for reluctant readers.

A. Hunt says

[Guest Blogger]

My son, Joshua!!

Hello! My name is Joshua and my mom is the owner of this website. Since I am homeschooled, I have to read a lot. A lot. When she got this book, she said I would like it. She was right but I did not know I would be blogging on it. No pressure.

Everything in this review will come from me. I am even typing it, but Mom, Alyssa Hunt, will be putting in the links and the fancy stuff. I am the brains and she's the back up.

The Deadly 7 is by Garth Jennings (he has a really fun website, by the way) and is about a boy named Nelson. His sister is kidnapped while on a trip in Spain which is pretty scary. His parents leave him with his Uncle Pogo (he has a wooden leg), who lives in London while they search for her. While there, Nelson helps his Uncle and ends up being stabbed in the back when he falls on to a strange machine below St. Paul's Cathedral! The machine removed seven entities (mom said that was a good word), from Nelson. All of them are what are from the seven deadly sins we have inside us! They appear to Nelson as weird looking monsters, but they behave like minions. Each creature has a bad or embarrassing habit and they don't always get along, but they are all there to help Nelson find his sister. They have strange powers that link themselves to Nelson and know when he needs help. So they go off on a mission to bring his big sister back home...

*For the full review: <http://tinyurl.com/gpdkrug>

**Book provided by Shelf Awareness and MacMillan Children's Publishing Grp., for an honest review..

Barbara says

In this import from Great Britain, eleven-year-old Nelson Green is understandably distraught when his beloved older sister Celeste disappears while on a school field trip. While his parents fly to her last known sighting, Nelson is packed off to stay with his eccentric inventor relative, Uncle Pogo, in London. But while Nelson and his uncle are looking for leaks in St. Paul's Cathedral, he accidentally sets into motion events that result in seven monsters, representing the seven deadly sins, being let loose on the world. Although all of this sounds rather frightening, it turns out to be hilarious in many respects since the monsters all have individual

characteristics, quirks, and talents that are rather endearing. They band together to help Nelson save his sister who has been kidnapped by evil forces and a hatred that goes back a generation. The descriptions of the monsters who turn out to be friends and the fight that is unleashed once they reach Brazil are engrossing and will have intermediate readers cheering Nelson and his unlikely allies on to victory. While I still had some questions as the story concluded, I certainly enjoyed it and would read more about this unusual alliance.

Heather Lawson says

I received a copy of this book through NetGalley. Originally posted here:
<https://heatherreviews.wordpress.com/...>

A charming tale about an unlikely group of heroes, strange creatures, and an epic journey to save a sister.

The Deadly 7 is a fun, wacky adventure story that is sure to grip kids tight and take them on a fantastic ride. The illustrations really bring the characters to life and make the story even more fun to read.

When Nelson accidentally creates seven creatures, they turn into unlikely friends as the group travels to save Nelson's sister, who has gone missing from a school trip.

The story was fast-paced with plenty of action and crazy moments to keep you turning the page. Nelson is a great character, one that many young children can relate to, and his love for his sister shows a great bond between the two.

There were some unexpected twists near the end of the story that made me gasp in surprise, I really didn't see certain things coming!

With a touch of magic, a colourful cast of characters, and an amazing adventure, The Deadly 7 is sure to capture the imagination of children. This book is one to look out for in the new year for young kids.
