



The Snatchabook

Helen Docherty , Thomas Docherty (Illustrations)

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A brilliantly written, laugh-out-loud rhyming text about books and the joy of reading in the vein of New York Times bestsellers *It's a Book*, *How Rocket Learned to Read*, and *Dog Loves Books*.

Where have all the bedtime stories gone?

One dark, dark night in Burrow Down, a rabbit named Eliza Brown found a book and settled down...when a Snatchabook flew into town.

It's bedtime in the woods of Burrow Down, and all the animals are ready for their bedtime story. But books are mysteriously disappearing. Eliza Brown decides to stay awake and catch the book thief. It turns out to be a little creature called the Snatchabook who has no one to read him a bedtime story. All turns out well when the books are returned and the animals take turns reading bedtime stories to the Snatchabook.

The Snatchabook Details

Date : Published October 1st 2013 by Sourcebooks Jabberwocky (first published 2013)

ISBN : 9781402290824

Author : Helen Docherty , Thomas Docherty (Illustrations)

Format : Hardcover 32 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Animals, Writing, Books About Books

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From Reader Review The Snatchabook for online ebook

Susa says

Sympis tarina ja ihana kuvitus. Tykkäsin.

Brittney Lara says

The Snatchabook is hands down one of the best rhyming stories I have read aside from Dr. Seuss. This is saying a lot for me, because I am obsessed with his work. This book however blew me away, the words seemed to jump right off the page. I read it alone three times before even sharing with my class. I was so excited to share it with them that they were about to jump out of their pants waiting for me to begin. The illustrations alone speak for themselves and even doing a picture walk with this book entices the reader to read the story. This book is about a rabbit who is cuddled into bed and suddenly her book was taken from her in the blink of an eye. She figures out that others in Burrow Down had similar instances. Soon all the books were taken from their homes and she was on a mission to find out why. When she discovers the criminal to this crime, we see Eliza's character shift in dynamics. She becomes heartfelt to the Snatchabook, and finds a way to help solve his problem. This book related to my kids on so many levels because we talked about how their parents read to them at night, and what it must have felt like to not have that opportunity. We also were able to see how sharing a piece of yourself with someone can go a long way. So compassion for others was a big conversation after this book. I incorporated this read as a read aloud during my unit of rhyming and alliteration. We read it for multiple days and my students wanted to read it on their own time. So I would recommend this book with more than 5 stars alone.

Henrietta says

What will you do when you can no longer find your favorite books at their usual locations in your home?

That's the problem the animals in the woods of Burrow Down have to face. Books are mysteriously disappearing and no one knows why such an absurd thing is happening! Eliza wants to do something about the situation and she refuses to go to bed until she gets this mystery resolved. Can she find out what's really going on?

I absolutely adored the story! The words rhymed beautifully and it's hard to resist not to read the words out loud. I also liked the illustrations – they're colorful, warm and cheery – and I found myself admiring the artwork as I read the story. If you like children's books that are fun and uplifting, you'll want to add *The Snatchabook* to your library.

To view some of the illustrations, go to: <http://thomasdocherty.co.uk/Illustration.htm>

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Originally posted on LeisureReads.com

A copy of the book was provided by publisher for review purposes.

Storywraps says

This adorable little rhyming fable is sure to become a classic and I would vote a hearty "yes" to have that happen. The setting is in a sleepy, lazy little nook, named Burrow Down. All different types of critters live there and they all love to read. When the lights dim at night all the mom's and dad's tuck their little ones in with a good night bedtime story. If you could peek into all their cozy homes you would find parents reading aloud and the kids wide-eyed with their ears tuned into every word that is being read to them.

One little bunny, the heroine of the story, Eliza Brown, is happily reading her book before retiring, when suddenly it is snatched away. Gone. Stunned, she cannot figure out how it happened but later discovers that all over Burrow Down books are being stolen by some unknown thief! Day after day the books vanish until the book shelves are nearly bare. Everyone is upset and nearly frantic because they do not know what is happening to their precious books. Bravely Eliza steps forward and purposes to find the culprit and solve this "book stealing" mystery.

She hatches a plan to bait the robber with a huge pile of books and then she stays awake to confront him and tell him of his wrong-doing. Long hours pass, she nearly falls asleep but suddenly is startled awake by the flapping of wings outside her window. Is it a bat? Is it a bird? A huge shadow is cast across her room but she is unmoved....she needs to get to the bottom of this. She opens her window wide and shouts:

"Stop stealing all our books,
right now!
Just them give them back,
I don't care how!"

Who, the what, and the why she discovers is not what she expected at all. Eliza Brown learns some valuable life lessons that night when she comes face to face with the Snatchabook. She learns not to judge before all the evidence is in and she learns the power of sharing with one less fortunate than herself. Other great lessons are: you must ask permission to take something before you go ahead on your own and just take it, and always, always right a wrong after it's done. The best lesson, we the readers can tuck into our hearts is how important it is to spend quality, cuddle time at the end of a long day (or anytime during the day) reading aloud to our little ones.

The illustrations are beautifully executed in a stunning pallet of subdued night tones that are colourful, warm and inviting. It is a perfect read-aloud and tailor-made for a bedtime story.

Laura says

The Snatchabook is a pure joy to read! Especially out loud. The words and lines rolled off my tongue. Rhyming lines that moved and flowed creating a magical storyland filled with cute critters, mystery, and the love of reading.

Books are disappearing from all over Burrow Down. Our hero, Eliza Brown, is determined to solve the crime and capture the book thief red handed!

**”Eliza saw a shadow loom,
enormous – right across her room.
What kind of monster could it be?
Eliza thought: You don’t scare me!
And yet, her heart was beating fast –
she’d have to face the thief at last...”**

Every shadow, warm bed side light, and wide eyed look of story wonder made my heart happy. A fun reading experience highlighting the power of reading, sharing and the rewarding feeling of making a wrong–right.

I highly recommend this wonder of a tale to read again and again.

p.s. If your kids bring home book orders from school, check for this one. It is so worth the buy. :) ?

Mehsi says

Read in Dutch, but will write review in English, because everyone should read this book and the book's language is originally English. So everyone can read it. :))

This book was adorable. I loved our main character who is a bunny and who loves reading a lot. Well, she is not alone though, everyone in the town (if that is what you want to call it) loves reading. Then one day books get stolen, poof! I loved how it was done and how we saw the effects. Children crying (they wanted their bedtime stories!), parents who also love reading were angry and a lot more.

Of course the thief has a big reason why he stole the books, and I really liked that reason and I felt sorry for the little guy. Stealing is bad, but I can imagine why he did what he did. Everyone likes being read to. And it is terribly sad if one creature just wants love but no one gives him that.

This book is perfect for kids, but also parents or adults who love reading.

The illustrations are what pulled me into the story and I am not disappointed, they are absolutely gorgeous and I really enjoyed looking at the illustrations when I was done with the bit of text. The colours are soft but also colourful. And they change with the mood. The stealing or sadder parts are darker, while the other parts are more filled with light.

All in all, this is one picture book I would highly recommend!

Review first posted at <http://twirlingbookprincess.com/>

Darinda says

The books in Burrow Down start disappearing at bedtime. No worries, the rabbit is on the mystery. This was a fun, rhyming picture book.

Shiloah says

“He looked so sad. If he just had a mom or dad to read him stories every night—well, then he might behave alright!”

Kristen Dutkiewicz says

All the books are disappearing and there's only one creature to blame - the snatchabook! A funny and entertaining story to read aloud to the little ones!

Barbara says

The story of how all the books in Burrow Down start disappearing is told in rhyming text. Eliza Brown, a rabbit, solves the mystery, and finds a way to make the Snatchabook and all the book owners happy. I have to say that this might be my worst possible nightmare--to have someone or something take my book away before I finished reading it. With colorful illustrations and an appealing heroine who also happens to love reading and sharing books with others, this picture book is sure to appeal to readers everywhere and remind parents and caregivers to make sure to read books aloud to their children every day. I'm not sure why the snatchabook didn't just head to the library, though.

Chelsea says

Books are being snatched! Who's snatching the books? What are the residents to do?! All is told in this wonderfully unique tale of a misunderstood creature that only wants to enjoy the stories of the books they are snatching like everyone else. I have not come across any other story such as this and I have thoroughly enjoyed reading it and reading it during story times. This book keeps the kiddos guessing and teaches the reader (or listener) that it isn't okay to steal things but it is okay to make mistakes and those mistakes can be made right again.

Read during Summer Camp Visit on July 30th, 2018.

Kristi Betts says

The Snatchabook by Helen Docherty and illustrated by Thomas Docherty has instantly become one of my favorite books. Not only because it centers around a mystery and reading, but because it is also about parents reading to their children! I love a great mystery and when books start disappearing all around the forest. Eliza Brown (a little brown rabbit) decides she is going to solve the mystery by setting a trap for the storybook thief.

Eliza is successful in not only catching the thief, but also having all of the books returned to her forest

friends. The book has a wonderful ending of redemption and turning a "wrong into a right". Although a mistake was made redemption and forgiveness is the moral of the story.

The illustrations are beautifully drawn by the author's husband, Thomas Docherty. The stark contrast between the crispy, dark night with a large full moon and the warm bedrooms of the animals is amazing. It shows the coziness of the families as they share the special bedtime ritual of reading together. The expressions on each of the faces of the animals conveys the interest they have in book being read. Their demeanor changes dramatically and with wonderful characterization when the animals come together to discuss their situation. I don't want to ruin the heartwarming ending, but I will say I love the bright sunny day depicted at the end when everything is resolved.

I would highly recommend this book for all libraries with children's collections. For bibliophiles like myself, you will most definitely want to add this title to your own collection of picture books. Just watch out, so it doesn't disappear!

*To comply with new guidelines introduced by the Federal Trade Commission, Sourcebooks, Inc. has provided a complimentary advanced reader copy of this book.

Molly says

Poor little Snatchabook has no one to read him stories, so he sets out on a quest to amass his own collection - by thieving tomes from all the animals around. Fortunately, a kindly rabbit steps in to solve the mystery and finds a solution to everyone's problems.

STORIES ARE IMPORTANT, YO.

Kalee Stegehuis says

This Review originally published at <http://rawrisforreading.wordpress.com...>

The Snatchabook is good for a quick bedtime read, and then pass it along to another friend or family to enjoy. The story is entertaining, but lacks a true hook.

The cover is appealing as it looks like a feel-good adventure story. The artwork is colorful and textured, and while the cover image is of rabbit reading to the snatchabook, the book title displays a classic adventure-style font that slightly juxtaposes the warm, friendly cover image.

The illustrations throughout the book are quite beautiful; they are intricate and glow with an array of warm colors. The illustrations create the cozy feel of cuddling up with a book, which is exactly what readers are predicted to be doing. This is a bed time story after all.

The story itself is a series of short rhymes. The animal families of Burrow Down are confused as to why all of their books are disappearing. Until one night, a rabbit named Eliza Brown discovers the snatchabook. As it turns out, the snatchabook is simply a misunderstood creature and Eliza Brown is able to resolve the issue of missing books. What I like in about this story is the consideration of a night without a bedtime story, or owning any stories at all. The burrow was distraught at their missing books and this invokes reader

sympathy. What would it be like without any books? And also, what about the children who aren't read books at bedtime, or even at all? The story poses a challenging question to readers by way of a playful rhyme and beautiful pictures.

One of the images shows four families with parents reading to their children in bed. In each image the child is imagining him or herself within each story, displaying the use of reading as escapism but also reinforcing the idea that reading is playful and has a way of connecting people. Therefore, the snatchabook dilemma creates a real problem in the story.

One plot hole of the story is the discovery of the snatchabook. If the creature's name implies his nature, why does the creature hang its head in shame? The character as an antagonist is severely underdeveloped. Why does the small creature have no one to read to him? While the snatchabook itself is a creative invention, I wished it had been a more rounded character.

Overall, *The Snatchabook* was a cute and engaging story of a small, misunderstood creature and the havoc he creates by snatching books from the families of Burrow Down. The rhyme and warm illustrations make this a good bedtime read-aloud, but some developments, specifically that of the snatchabook itself, are vague or ignored. It's a good story. Share it with your kids or siblings. However, the story's dilemma is simple and might not make for a favorite read.

Jenni says

Originally posted on my blog: <http://bookandbabes.blogspot.com/2013...>

I received this ARC from Sourcebooks at ALA Annual 2013

Oh my goodness! This book is one of my favorites, and I am already reading it often to Taylor. The story is quite simple, and very cute. Everyone's bedtime books are being stolen in the blink of an eye, and Eliza wants to stop it from going on. When she finds out why the books are being stolen by the Snatchabook, she befriends the creature. All books are returned and the rest of the town takes turns nightly including Snatchabook in their bedtime reading routines.

As you can see, this book can easily demonstrate the power of sharing. Sometimes when people are left out, they will do bad things. Sometimes when people share, people will do nice things. While that is a very simple meaning that can be drawn from the book, it is still a powerful one. The rhyme and rhythm of this book does nothing but justice, creating an easy free-flowing read that helps younger readers to sound out unknown words. The illustrations are beautiful by themselves, creating an adorable animal world, with plenty of visual details that entertained my 6 month old as well as myself.

This is not your run-of-the-mill children's picture book. This one teaches morals, has wonderful illustrations and rhyme, and really remind readers the power and love of a bedtime story.

My Rating: 5 stars, hands down. Go buy this book for your kids or grandkids. It's absolutely wonderful.

Jenni
