



Scary School

Derek The Ghost , Scott M. Fischer (Illustrator)

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You think your school's scary?

Get a load of these teachers:

Ms. Fang, an 850-year-old vampire

Dr. Dragonbreath, who just might eat you before recess

Mr. Snakeskin—science class is so much more fun when it's taught by someone who's half zombie

Mrs. T—break the rules and spend your detention with a hungry *Tyrannosaurus rex*!

Plus

Gargoyles, goblins, and Frankenstein's monster on the loose

The world's most frighteningly delicious school lunch

And

The narrator's an eleven-year-old ghost!

Join Charles "New Kid" Nukid as he makes some very Scary friends—including Petunia, Johnny, and Peter the Wolf—and figures out that Scary School can be just as funny as it is spooky!

Scary School Details

Date : Published June 21st 2011 by HarperCollins

ISBN : 9780061960925

Author : Derek The Ghost , Scott M. Fischer (Illustrator)

Format : Hardcover 233 pages

Genre : Childrens, Middle Grade, Fiction, Fantasy, Humor, Paranormal, Horror, Ghosts

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Download and Read Free Online Scary School Derek The Ghost , Scott M. Fischer (Illustrator)

From Reader Review Scary School for online ebook

Eric Schwartz says

Do you remember your first day at a new school? It was a scary experience, wasn't it? You didn't know anybody, you didn't know where anything is at, and just your luck you had the really mean teacher with the hairy wart on her nose. Well, welcome to Scary School where a hairy wart is the least of your worries. That's because at Scary School regular boys and girls attend class with scary kids, and those classes are taught by scary teachers.

Yeah, you heard me...head crushing, blood sucking, fire breathing, curse casting scary people. And, that is just a drop in the moat of scariness found at Scary School.

At Scary School it is common for a student to be eaten by teacher or be turned into a scary kid yourself. In fact, you're considered lucky if you survive the first day of school. If that's not scary enough the school is hosting this year's Ghoulish Games, and a new rule makes your chances of surviving the school year even harder. So, join your host (and former student) Derek the Ghost as he shares with you the wonderful and delightfully scary world of Scary School.

Derek Kent wrote Scary School from the perspective of his penname Derek the Ghost. DtG unfortunately perished when one of his teacher's experiments went terribly wrong. Now he wanders the halls of the school as a ghost pursuing a hobby he's always loved...writing. As you read Scary School you'll notice that it is not written in a structured timeline. Early in the book characters and stories are presented randomly with only the loosest connection to previous chapters, if any at all. In fact, it reads more like an anthology or like you're flipping through the author's notes rather than a seamlessly connected novel. Eventually, a central (or main) conflict emerges, and some of these random stories begin coming together.

BUT, don't let this deter you from reading this book. I still found it to be very entertaining. The humor in Scary School is very simple, which makes sense being that the target audience is 3-5 graders. Yet, I still found myself chuckling with every turn of the page (like the way DtG nonchalantly tells how a teacher eats one of their students like it's a normal thing.) All the characters are entertaining and imaginative. Their hilarious stories will keep your kids laughing and you smiling in amusement. The artwork by Scott M. Fischer is great and definitely bumps up the entertainment value. Older kids will love reading it, and younger kids will love it while you remain entertained by read it to them. If you enjoy this book then you should read his first book Rudy and the Beast: My Homework Ate My Dog! (I personally think it is his best book)

Aeicha says

READ THE ORIGINAL AND COMPLETE REVIEW (AND MANY MORE) AT WORD SPELUNKING

I dove right into Scary School as soon as it arrived in the mail! I mean, I couldn't resist that fun cover and that wicked cool trailer and song!

As you can tell, I LOVED this book! It's pretty much made of awesome. Written and narrated by Derek the Ghost, an 11 year old former attendee at Scary School who died a year ago in a science lab accident...but don't worry, he's kinda cool with it. Derek the Ghost recounts the many adventures and happenings of Scary School. And just what is Scary School? Well, it's exactly what it sounds like, duh! Scary School is an elementary school, open to both humans and scary children, run by scary teachers. With a principle named Principle Headcrusher, teachers like Ms. Fang and Dr. Dragonbreath, and a T.Rex as a librarian and detention monitor, well you never know what's going to happen. In this first installment of a new series, we follow Charles "New Kid" Nukid, as he makes his way through his first terrifying year at Scary School. A year that is made even more exciting with the Ghoul Games.

Author Derek Kent, aka Derek the Ghost, offers up a delightfully funny, entertaining and positively spellbinding new series. This is the type of book that I would have gone crazy for as a kid! It's whimsical, laugh out loud funny, smart, and full of fun surprises. The narration is a perfect blend of childlike silliness and deadpan sarcasm. This book is reminiscent of Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events and The Adventures of the Bailey School Kids series, both of which I adore.

There is a wonderful cast of characters, human and scary alike. In this book, Derek introduces us to many of Scary School's more interesting students, such as Peter the Wolf, Jason the hockey mask, chainsaw wielding hockey player, Petunia the purple skinned flower girl, Ramon the zombie, Penny Possum who's boss at playing dead, and Frank which is pronounced "Rachel". Each character is engaging, likable, and perfectly childlike. I truly loved every single character, but I think my favorite so far is Penny Possum.

This is a book that kids will just get. The silly, sometimes gross, out there humor is pitch perfect for the MG and younger crowd. But, this book will surely entertain adults as well. It definitely captivated this grown up! This would make an excellent read aloud book for kids and adults to share.

But, just because this book is a hoot a page doesn't mean it has nothing meaningful and important to offer. There are many valuable lessons to be learned in this book as well, such as: Never judge a person by their appearance

- Friends can come in all sorts of packages
- Always be yourself
- Don't anger a vampire
- Always follow a dragon's rules
- Lunchtime is NOT a good time to visit a T.Rex
- When in doubt, use Monster Math: the bigger the number, the better.

For example: $2+2=$...if you said 4 then you'd be wrong. If you said 18,478 or 2,674,198 or Infinity, then you'd probably be right...who knew, according to Monster Math, that I was a mathematical genius all along?!

I have to mention the illustrations done by Scott M. Fischer because they are awesome! His simple, yet wonderfully vivid pictures really capture the scenes and bring the book to life.

MY FINAL THOUGHTS: Ten year old me is sad that this book wasn't around when she was in elementary school, but grown up me is so glad to have found this book in the present. Scary School is a superb first installment in what is sure to be a beloved and adored new series. Readers of all ages will be delighted and captivated by its humor, magic, and awesomeness. You absolutely **MUST** read this book!

Daniela says

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to have a vampire or a dragon for a teacher? Or a hungry T. Rex for a detention monitor? Or maybe a principal who held the Ghoulish Games and had the students get eaten by monster if they didn't win? OR your fellow classmates were werewolves and ghouls?

Well, Charles Nukid is about to find out.

Derek the Ghost's Scary School is a hilarious scholastic twist. It's a fun light read for all ages that will definitely make you smile throughout the day. The book is a stack of separate stories from different characters all told by the same narrator, Derek the Ghost. He's probably the most amusing narrator I've ever encountered. His tone is indifferent, but not in an entirely callous way. Derek has a very unique voice where he can talk about death and gore in an easy manner. By the way he talks about it, you wouldn't even notice how scary the school really is.

The stories themselves were easy to get through and superbly funny. I couldn't help but smile as I read on. And it's a perfect fit for all ages!

I had my brother, who's in fourth grade, give it a try. Here's how things went:

Me: Hey bro! Want to give Scary School a try? It's really good.

Bro: Nope.

Me: Oh come on, you love monsters!

Bro: But I hate books.

Me: *In a sing-song voice* It's got awesome pictures in it!

Bro: *Looks doubtful for a moment*

I show him the cool illustrations in it.

Bro: Okay. But I'm only reading the first chapter.

An hour later...

Me: Bro! It's dinner time!

Bro: *Groans* Oh come on! I just got to the best part!

I peek into his room and find him absorbed into the book. He absolutely loved it! The next day, he was begging the librarians to get him the second one.

Scary School is an adorably priceless read that made even my brother, who's got a thing against reading, read. It's easy, but highly entertaining and truly worth it.

Now I'm taking it on a test run with my little sister. I'm absolutely positive that she'll love it just as much. It's a boy's dream book, but girls can fall in love with it just as well.

E says

Scary School by Derek The Ghost, author Derek Taylor Kent and Illustrated by Scott M. Fisher, is the story of a year in a truly unusual school. I know of no other school that has a moat and a drawbridge. It is a place where a T. rex who wears a blue dress is both the librarian and detention room monitor. Another staff member, Mr Turtlesnaps claims to have been a friend of Darwin as well as being the recipient of his books. The book is narrated by Derek, an eleven year old ghost who is unable to leave the school. He is an aspiring writer who becomes just that—a ghost writer. He chronicles the events of the school year which comes to close with a very bizarre competition called Ghoulish Games. Losing at any of the games can lead to dire consequences. There is more to the book than all the weird happenings. The story clearly shows the value of friendship, loyalty and honesty. The characters are perfectly developed. The illustrations are excellent. I highly recommend this book for children from age 8 to 12 and for adults, as well. Reading this book is a pleasure and enjoyable.

I received this book at no charge from Goodreads.

Courtney says

One of my favorite books as a young kid was Sideway Stories from Wayside School and Scary School reminded me a lot of that book!! It was similar in layout and style but completely different in content! In Scary School by Derek the Ghost you have chapters pretty much dedicated to getting to know the characters!! Each one is about someone Derek is talking about but then they flow easily in to the next chapter!! I had a really great time reading this book!! The characters are all fun, unique and bit scary in the 8-10yr old way.

I loved the story on Ms. Fang!! She is a vampire and when she gets mad at the kids in her class she'll suck their blood out and die. Sounds gruesome but it isn't really; because nobody really dies permanently so it's not too tragic. I also found the whole 3 Rachel thing hilarious!! There is Rachel, Raychel and Frank (pronounced as Rachel).

I agreed to review this book because I thought it might be something my 8 year old girl would enjoy because she is actually reading Sideway Stories at Wayside School right now. She saw me reading this book and then asked if she could. No sooner did I put it down, did she pick it up!! She was cracking up the whole time too!!

I was a little worried that it had the potential to be too scary for my 8 yr old but it wasn't. She found the scary stories funny and entertaining and loved the added sketches throughout the book!!

If you are looking for a great, silly, scary story book for your 8-10 yr old, I think this is an amazing option!! Sure to be entertaining!!

Thank you to the author for providing me a free copy of this book in exchange for my honest review and opinion. I was not obligated to write a positive review. All opinions are my own.

Dulcy says

Publisher: Harper Collins

Age: Elementary/ Middle Grade

Rating: 5/5

Species: Werewolf/ Vampire/ Zombie/Dragon/ Magically Delicious/ Witch/ Human/ T-Rex

Interest: Requested Review/ Supernatural Beings/ Good Cover

Source: Received for review from Derek Kent

Disclaimer: My Summer Girl Books hasn't read middle grade books or elementary chapter books since, well since she was in those grades. She may not be up to date on the most adventurous, grossest, scariest, funniest or best books for that age group, but she is confident in her book recommending skills. She now requests that every kid, big or little, normal or scary, fearless or not, to read this book series.

I think I forgot that books can be funny. More accurately, that books can be hilarious in a non-sarcastic, self depreciating or obscene way. *Scary School* was just plain insane fun. Nothing was forced into making sense. It was just one crazy story after another, which was wonderful. There wasn't any intense drama or cruelty or too intricate plots. One of the reasons I enjoyed *Scary School* so much was that I could just turn my brain off and have fun while reading it. That almost never happens to me anymore. Any chance to get outside of my constantly over-analyzing head is beyond welcome. (I want to read the second book, *Monsters on the March* so badly right now!)

Drawings! I am such a huge fan of art. Anyone who's read this blog for a while knows this. Illustrations just take me to a very happy place in my heart, especially good ones. When I agreed to review it, I didn't realize that *Scary School* was pretty much bursting with illustrations of characters and their odd predicaments. As soon as I found out, I fell half in love with this book series. Being able to see a character on a page somehow enhances everything I read about them and makes it a more enjoyable experience. While I loved reading about all of the characters, I think watching them would be much better. *Scary School* should be made into an animated TV show! I would totally watch it.

Another reason I think this would be perfect for TV, is the short and sweet vignettes. The book didn't focus on one specific character, but rather branched out to include a large number of *Scary School* inhabitants. I confess to having my favorites. (Charles Nukid and Penny Possum dream team forever! I wouldn't mind learning from Mr. Drangonsbreath or Ms. Fang at all! Petunia and Frank [pronounced Rachel] are besties!) However none of the characters were truly rude or unlikeable, except for that nasty business with the villain. (He gets his just desserts though, so it's alright.)

Section of the review for Parents only: *Scary School* does have some good morals in it, like selflessness, discipline, respect, not judging people, etc. Although the title says the school is scary, there aren't too many frightening moments for children, I can only think of one or two. All the deaths are funny, not traumatizing and usually results in the dead being brought back to life. It's a fun and easy read. Plus, there are allusions in there just for the parents, like Mrs. T, Frank N. Stein and other cute little puns or comments directed at an older audience.

Section of the review for kids only: It's a totally awesome book! There are vampires, zombies, witches and a principal that could crush your head with her hands! Some gross things happen too like eating bugs, but that's over really quickly. My advice is to watch out for Mr. Drangonsbreath's rules, never look at number 5!

There was only one thing about *Scary School* that bugged me. The book is written by Derek The Ghost of course, and he loves telling stories. However, he would keep getting ahead of himself and have to repeat "but more about that in the next book" or "you'll hear about that later" or even constantly correcting the pronunciation of Frank to Rachel every single time she was mentioned. This isn't a bad thing for a book, but it's very distracting to wonder what will happen later or what will be in the next *Scary School* book when you're trying to read the story currently being told.

Overall, *Scary School* was a hilarious, wonderful, funny and slightly scary book that I loved! I encourage parents or teachers to buy this book for their kids to read. I would especially recommend it for kids who were like me, at that age, totally in love with the strange and supernatural, wanting to be scared, but not really terrified. I promise your kids (and you!) will absolutely love this book! So rush out and buy it the first chance you get, and devour it like Mr. Drangonsbreath will devour you!

Don't forget to check out the *Scary School* website, scaryschool.com to meet the staff and students, play games, unlock bonus stories, view book tour information and quizzes!

Teaser Lines: "I pity the fool who betrays this school," Mrs. T replied licking her chops.

Look out for the next *Scary School* book, *Monsters on the March*, out on June 26th 2012 from Harper Collins!

Happy Reading,
My Summer Girl Books

Hollie Ruthless says

There's so much good material in this school that the author created! I would say that I didn't so much care about the plot of the school competition so much as I enjoyed hearing about all the different stories and their histories. Very silly and spooky. Definitely a fun one to read aloud to my 7-year-old!

Jinky says

My 9yo son, David, agreed to review this book through Q&A so this is his review.

What would you rate this book? (1-don't bother; 2-satisfactory; 3-overall good; 4-highly recommend; 5-a must read)

5, a must read!

What do you like and not like about the book?

I liked that the author used very descriptive words so I can really see the pictures in my head. The thing I didn't like about it was absolutely nothing!

What's your favorite part?

When Frank N. Stein showed up, that was very surprising. I was thinking Frankenstein would come.

Who was your favorite character and why?

I liked Jason because he had a crush on Ms. Fang, that was funny!

Describe the feelings you felt while reading the book.

I felt like I was really in Scary School.

Would you read another book from this author?

Yes, because I really liked this book so why wouldn't I like another book?

What's your overall impression of the book?

I loved the book and I would love to read Scary School 2.

If you could change something about the book, what would it be?

Hmmm, well actually nothing at all!

What would you like the author to know?

I love the book and thank you for such an awesome book!

Side note: This was a spur of the moment adventure. I asked questions *from the top of my head* and David was very excited to answer them. He truly enjoyed this opportunity to voice his thoughts about this book. He wanted to stay up to see this post (blog) go live but of course I had much to do to set this up and it would be well pass his bedtime by the time I finish it (because I'm slow like that!).

Oh, I did read this book as well and wasn't as enthusiastic about the read as David but I'm long past childhood so my sense of fascination isn't in tune with a young reader's mind. I personally would rate this book a 3.5. That said, since this book is geared to young readers, David's review is more apropos.

Jinky is Reading

Derek The says

BOOKLIST REVIEW OF SCARY SCHOOL!

Scary School, by Derek the Ghost.

Kent, Derek Taylor (author).

Illustrated by Scott M. Fischer.

July 2011. 256p. Harper, hardcover, \$15.99 (9780061960925). Grades 3-6.

REVIEW.

First published June 1, 2011 (Booklist).

Imagine if the teachers from Mike Thaler's Black Lagoon series lived up to their students' fears, and you will understand life at Scary School, a place where monsters and humans learn side by side. The book is narrated by snarky 11-year-old Derek the Ghost, who perished at Scary School long before the story starts. Linking his vignettes and character profiles is a loose narrative describing the school's preparation for the annual Ghoul Games. Derek makes frequent allusions to events in later chapters and even to unwritten books, and this teasing storytelling style enhances the humor, as Kent initially tosses aside odd events and then resolves them when least expected. The artwork, a mix of full-page drawings and spot sketches, has a comic flair and helps bring to life the strange, and occasionally human, characters. Sometimes gross and never frightening, this is a laugh-out-loud offering that should find a broad and appreciative audience among boys and girls alike.

— Kara Dean

Rebecca says

Lately I've been wanting to read humorous books and I was lucky enough to have a copy of Scary School to read through. Not only was this highly entertaining but I got quite a few laughs from it too.

I really loved the illustrations in Scary School. It added in that extra layer of awesomeness but at the same time it was really funny. I particularly enjoyed the first picture of Charles Nukid. There were of course many other brilliant images throughout the book.

Most of the book was introducing the characters and telling little stories about them which I really enjoyed. I really liked so many of the characters that I don't really have a favourite, although I did like Derek the Ghost who is in the story as he is the one telling the story.

I found Scary School to be slightly reminiscent of Harry Potter, The Munsters and the Addams Family. It was really awesome. There were so many funny bits and it was really well written. Overall, I really enjoyed Scary School and highly recommend it!

Montague says

There was a T-rex with a blue dress. It's about a bunch of scary teachers and scary kids that are trying to make the school scarier by winning a competition. I liked that it was funny and scary. (age 7)

Miranda Wheeler says

Scary School achieves a new level of awesome!!

Ghost-kid Derek is looking for peace in halls filled with goons, ghouls, and monsters of every kind. This school is Topsy-turvy, where the uniform is not wearing the uniform and you're taught by vampires and zombies, nearly eaten by a giant squid on your first day, and detained in detention by an old-lady T-Rex that you certainly don't want to be dining with.

How could you not want to attend?

This book is totally my little brothers' humor, and I thought of them often while reading it. It's nostalgic in the way that it captures everything people love about being a creepy kid: dinosaurs, monsters, and acting a little weird and incredibly silly. It's clever, it's unique, it's great for any kid (even the really big ones), and it's laugh-out-loud funny! If you're afraid you may might die of laughter, don't worry - Scary School surely has a place for you afterward.

It manages to make light of what could be a traumatic situation (like, well, croaking in the science lab and left with the depressing task of haunting your school), while still managing to pull through with a few important morals and great themes about growing up (and not). Brimming with likable, amusing characters you'd be crazy not to be fond of (like Derek the Ghost or rule-obsessed Charles "New Kid" Nukid), it's a perfect example that reading can absolutely be fun for any age, and an important reminder that being different can be a wonderful thing.

This quick, middle-grade book is adorable in the creepy way. It's a totally fun must-read grown ups will like, too! Fantastic graphics and drawings are woven throughout the pages, with flocks of bats, ghoulish characters, and ghost-pad notebook lines all reiterating the fun feel of the piece. The story is so real it's actually attributed to a character. How can one get more awesome than that? If I had come across it (especially) in elementary school, I would've been all over this series! Of course even now I completely relate to our ghostly storyteller (there were a few times I would've liked to die in science class, too), and reading it felt like talking to a quirky childhood friend. And hey! If they open the grades, I'll consider enrolling - it would make high school so much less mundane. Scary School considered a great place for academic challenges and curious, revolutionary rules. Plus the staff is quite up-front, peculiar and interesting: you can actually pronounce all of their names (those being true-to-character... and species), and, I've always had a suspicion that most teachers want to eat you - at least at Scary School they're honest about it!

It's an entertaining cross between Scooby Doo, Monster High, and Growing Up Creepy, made for the age group a few levels before The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian. I recommend it for fans of all of

the above, plus any kid (or parent) looking for something new! :)

Katie says

Amazing book that I am sure elementary and middle aged kids will love and even some of us that are still children at heart. Fun and entertaining this book will have you laughing from the first chapter. The characters are very fun and unique and had me smiling at their humorous antics at every turn of the page. My favorite character has to be Penny Possum and Charles Nukid their little adventure together was very cute and of course filled with lots of chuckles.

Give your kids a great book that will keep them laughing and entertained for hours by getting “Scary School” by Derek The Ghost.

Kelly says

This rating isn't really mine, per se (though I also thought it was entertaining). Both my fifth and sixth grade students loved this book and for their age, it's the most hilarious thing ever. The humor is exactly right for them. I had to lock up the book so students wouldn't try to take it and read ahead of our class read aloud. I mean, what a great thing to have to lock up though. I think that speaks volumes.

C.H. Armstrong says

In the last several months, I've been on an exhaustive search for age-appropriate books to read to my seven-year-old son. I love to read aloud to him, but so many of the books that are age-appropriate bore me to tears and don't really keep his attention as well as they should. As a result, I've done an exhaustive search of Google, the library and the big book stores to find something that would capture his imagination...and maybe a little of my own imagination, too.

Scary School by Derek the Ghost looked promising. It received a full 5-star review from Amazon readers, 4.5 stars from Barnes and Noble readers, and the overwhelming consensus of adult readers was that it was laugh-out-loud funny to both kids and adults. If the reviews weren't exaggerated, this was exactly the book I needed!

Written as a series of short stories and anecdotes surrounding the daily happenings at a school run by monsters, Scary School is better than laugh-out-loud funny. It's creative and witty, and downright bizarre at times.

What could be more fun than a book narrated by the ghost of a kid who met his demise during a school science experiment gone wrong? Well, you might start with the new kid at school named Charles Nukid. When his classmates greet him as “Hey New Kid!” on his first day of school, he's thrilled that they already know his name.

Not funny enough for you? How about a T-Rex in a blue dress who is responsible for detention? Every day

at lunch time she lets out a loud “roar” and if you don’t run to your own lunch quickly enough, she might just choose you for her next meal!

Still not enough? How about a one-fanged vampire-teacher named Ms. Fang? Or a school principal with the last name of Headcrusher? Perhaps the hallway monitor, Mr. Spider-Eyes, will spark your attention? Maybe being sent to the school health office to see Nurse Hairymoles will capture your imagination? If none of that grabs you, then wait until you meet the student body!

Scary School is quite simply a great read. The bizarre antics of the characters will elicit belly laughs from young readers and bring more than a few giggles to adult readers as well. Most surprisingly to me, it captured the interest of my almost-16-year old daughter who once asked if she could sit in on a reading. Yes, it’s that entertaining!
