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Reader's Reviews

The House Ate It! by JoAnn Rackear Goldrich, illustrated by Alden Thomas

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **READY FOR PRIME TIME** By CE on September 2, 2016

"I have read many children's books over the years (former elementary school teacher and principal). "The House Ate It" rates among the most ingenious of the lot, right up there with the big guys. It takes a familiar concept--who hasn't wondered at some point if the house ate all our missing items--and combines it with a well-told story that gives a nod to the playbook of J.R.R. Tolkien--instead of Middle Earth we have Gnorplop and its own inventive language that is recognizable due to Goldrich's use of familiar, yet rich and creative, contextual clues. The format of the book lends itself to read aloud, whether child to adult, adult to child, or both together. And don't get me started on the illustrations--that's another whole rating all by itself. Five stars for Goldrich's story-telling, five stars for Thomas's pictures. Together, they make a big, fat, juicy story for any child ready to indulge the wonders of imagination. And what kid wouldn't want to do that?"

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **THIS IS A PERFECT BOOK** By Janie on September 1, 2016

"This is a perfect book. It is delightful, enchanting, and filled with underlying values. Kindness and trust between brothers, community, appreciation of beauty, adventure, and imagination are embedded in a story told in wonderful titivating language. Any lover of words will find The House Ate It irresistible. For me, reading this story, was a homecoming. I have always wanted to live in Gnorplop. I just did not know its name. But I know where to find it, in my heart and at my favorite stories bookshelf."

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **FUN WITH WORDS** By KB on September 2, 2016

"Readers are in for a treat! The House Ate It is a witty book full of creativity and imagination. Printed in landscape format (the binding is at the top) the reader is immediately drawn to interact with the book in a different and creative way - a hint of more to come. The well developed story has themes of trust, kindness, adventure and problem solving, perfect for discussions. The amazing and colorful illustrations beautifully enhance and support the story. As an educator, I love that the book and accompanying glossary provide examples of creative language and encourage readers to imagine their own words and definitions. A delightful book. Happy reading!"

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **FUN & FULFILLING!** By Diane August 28, 2016

"The heartwarming and amusing tale of two brothers and their House with a mind of its own. The story is set in a world with funny, unique descriptions of everyday items (the book includes a glossary of terms at the back, but it's not difficult to figure out their meaning without referring to it). It moves along at an easy pace, gradually building as the brothers have to deal with not only their initial problem but their neighborhood's well-meaning suggestions which, unsurprisingly, DO NOT HELP. Beautiful full-page color illustrations, along with smaller black & white accent pieces, serve to enhance the storytelling. They are a real feast for the eyes, but the heart of the book is a well-told tale of family and caring and sharing. The book is presented in a top-bound format which makes for a memorable reading experience. A story for all ages to enjoy. I know I did and I'm 63 years old."

goodreads

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