



The Haunting Hour: Chills in the Dead of Night

R.L. Stine , Joe Rivera (Illustrator) , Various (Illustrations)

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Ten terrifying tales that will give you shivers...from the master of horror, R.L. Stine

Read the spine-tingling story of a babysitter who loves evil tricks...the terrifying tale of a boy who dared to lie down in the tomb of an ancient mummy...the ghastly story of two boys just *dying* to have the scariest Halloween ever—and more.

These are the original stories that inspired the hit TV show *R.L. Stine's The Haunting Hour*. This bone-chilling collection of ten of the author's most frightful tales is guaranteed to give you chills in the night and turn any dream into a nightmare.

The Haunting Hour: Chills in the Dead of Night Details

Date : Published August 6th 2002 by HarperCollins (first published 2001)

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Author : R.L. Stine , Joe Rivera (Illustrator) , Various (Illustrations)

Format : Paperback 160 pages

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From Reader Review The Haunting Hour: Chills in the Dead of Night for online ebook

Tiffany says

10 brilliant horror stories, great for all ages!

My favorite one's were Can you draw me & My Imaginary Friend.

Andy Kristensen says

Very dark but very good horror fiction for a YA audience. I'm surprised Stine was able to get away with some of the endings to these tales- I don't remember thinking these were disturbing as a little kid when I first read them, but they're pretty crazy for a ten-year-old reader. Not bad to cut your teeth on before moving onto the King of horror himself.

Etienne says

4,5/5. Great short stories book by the master R. L. Stine. Certainly the author at tread the most at a young age and still enjoy reading it as an adult. Those stories are not all «horror» but they're all good and very entertaining. Not that scary for adult obviously, but they could give the younger reader a good Goosebumps moment. Loved it!

Emm - Stories for Ghouls says

The Haunting Hour is somewhere in-between Goosebumps and Fear Street - it has the dark, more mature nature of Fear Street, but with the writing style and themes of Goosebumps. Shivery and nightmarish, but fairly goreless. Expect a lot of cruel and surreal twists.

The illustrations stand out as well, each by a different artist - some photorealistic, some cartoony, all of them really give an atmosphere to the story.

Easily the best is "The Halloween Dance", very creative and well-written Halloween story. "The Mummy's Dream", "My Imaginary Friend" and "The Bad Baby-sitter" are close runners-up, and are all memorable. "Losers" is the sickest and strangest of the lot. The worst is "How to Bargain With a Dragon", not a bad story but sort of random for the collection.

The Halloween Dance - 5/5

Losers - 4/5

How to Bargain With a Dragon - 2.5/5

My Imaginary Friend - 4.5/5

The Mummy's Dream - 5/5

The Bad Babysitter - 4.5/5

Take Me With You - 3/5

Revenge of the Snowman - 3.5/5

Can You Draw Me? - 4/5

Are We There Yet? - 3/5

General - 4/5

Storm Arashi says

Oldie but goodie, read this all the time when I was just a kid, it was always eerie then, not scary now but still interesting and fun, especially remembering little details like a characters doll collection, or that voodoo was performed in one story. Or a Dystopian-esque story that was very eerie... And made me wary of car trips for awhile when I was young.

Nice to go back to your roots sometimes.

Chelsea says

Halloween Dance: ★★

Bad Babysitter: ★★★

Revenge of the Snowman: ★★

How to Bargain with a Dragon: ★★

Mummy's Dream: ★★★

Are We There Yet?: ★★★

Take Me with You: ★★

My Imaginary Friend: ★★★

Losers: ★★

Can You Draw Me?: ★★

Rebecca McNutt says

These short stories are a good way to pass the time or if you're a fan of the TV show, you might like reading the stories like 'My Imaginary Friend' and others which some episodes were based off of. For older readers though, they aren't really as effective. Nevertheless, they're still entertaining.

Tanita Dhiyaan says

Until today, I'm thankful for finding this book by accident in a local bookstore, that weren't meant to sell imported books. It was slipped under a pile of other horror-themed books, and caught my attention immediately. not really because of the title, but for R.L. Stine. If I can recall, he doesn't write collective-story book like this one. And I can sense that this is indeed a more mature book other than other classic Goosebumps.

My favorite story from the book would be, "My name is not Martin", if I'm not mistaken. I'm not really sure what's the exact title, but it was about the kid in the hospital, and the other would be "My Imaginary Friend" which I think is never like any imaginary friend-themed story, as far as I can remember. I must say, Im not really easy on western horror stories, they're just not scary compared to Eastern especially Indonesia's, but this one really gave me some paranoid nights and day after reading it.

A well done job, Stine.

Ghanem Alkalbani says

This book made me laugh a lot ! The stories were funny and not scary at all. Some stories were bad and some are good ! I liked "The Bad Baby-Sitter" and "Are we There Yet" ..

Alexandra says

the haunting hour is a collection of ten "terrifying tales" written by rl stine and illustrated by various artists including art spiegelman and roz chast.

two or three of these stories were pretty decent but the rest were kind of eh.

i'm well aware that i'm way above the age of the intended audience for this book but i picked it up cheap at a used bookstore that was going out of business and figured it couldn't hurt to try it. plus my love and nostalgia for rl stine and most cheesy 90's horror is real. (although this one was published in the 2000's and therefore doesn't technically qualify).

this one just didn't do it for me, and i will most likely be donating it to the library.

April says

love old school scares that make you jump

◊ Kimberly ◊ says

These are the original tales that inspired the TV show 'R.L Stine's The Haunting Hour'. It consists of 10 creepy stories geared towards young readers.

The tales in this book include:

The Halloween Dance

The Bad Baby-Sitter

Revenge of the Snowman

How to Bargain with a Dragon

The Mummy's Dream

Are We There Yet?
Take Me With You
My Imaginary Friend
Losers
Can You Draw Me?

Mileena says

The Haunting Hour

•The Halloween Dance

5/5

I feel like when it comes to his books of short stories, RL takes a bit more time and consideration into what he's saying. And this story was no different. It had this eerie Trick R Treat feel to it. Walking through a cemetery and feeling the hairs on the back of your neck stand on end kind of feel. And I love that about him. The mind freak of realizing that for the whole second half of the story, these children's err dead was just chilling.

•The Bad Babby-Sitter

4/5

One this story started off and we were introduced to Lulu, I feel in love with her character. This is my new book girlfriend I thought to myself. When she convinced the kids to make the first batch of Voodoo cookies, I though it was funny. The broken arm and the hair falling off. It was that funny feeling you get when watching a horror movie and see someone make this ridiculous face while getting chopped in half. Then when she started threatening them and their parents, you were rooting for them to kill her and her headless freaky body. Of course, it's just like RL to end up murdering everyone in the story though...

•Revenge of the Snowman

3/5

There are a lot of RL Stine stories that I'm never sure how I feel about them when they end. This is one of them. I thought this was gonna end up being more of a 'cruel kids end up accidentally murdering someone story'. Turned out much different than I thought. I liked it though.

•How to Bargain with a Dragon

4/5

This one was a lot different from any other RL story I've read before. It felt lie old rustic fantasy like the Hobbit kind of thing. It had a more fun lighter feel than some of his other stuff. Less of a "on the edge of your seat" feel. But it happy ending and went into a cute How To Train Your Dragon approach.

•The Mummy's Dream

5/5

This was for sure one of my favorite stories in this book. It had magic, adventure, a completely original idea and of course, an unfortunate ending. I loved the whole Magic Treehouse meets Prince of Egypt vibe this gave and it was exciting from start to finish.

•Are we there yet?

5/5

Wow, a happy ending? That's new. This story started off quite slow, but then felt like that Kristen Stewart movie The Messengers where things are attacking her and her little brother. And ended with a whole dystopian, Divergent type feel, that I felt could really have potential as a full length novel. Really enjoyed this one.

•Take Me With You

4/5

This bad ending seemed more comical and open ended then the rest of them that ended unhappily did. It had a very creepy air. Truly scary. A little anticlimactic towards the end but the very ending was funny and left much to the imagination.

•My Imaginary Friend

4/5

I figured out pretty early in the story that Shawn was fake as well based off of how the dad reacted every time he blamed Shawn for something that he did, but the mom part tripped me up. This one wasn't so much magic or horror, it was actually kinda sad when you think about it. Just a mentally ill boy who will probably end up getting himself killed.

•Loser

4/5

Everything that happened to these boys was so well deserved. I was even kind of hoping that when they woke up in the dumpster, that their hand would have been cut off. The first half was frustrating because of how immature they were, then it became very AHS Freakshow/ Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, and ended with it luckily happening to them.

Can You Draw Me?

3.5/5

Eh I'm not sure how I felt about this one. It had a very good strong beginning and the idea is completely original. I liked the creepy images that the brush made. But it was frustrating and I wasn't sure how I felt about the ending.

La llave de plata says

Hice una mini reseña de este libro en mi blog:

<https://lallavedeplatablog.wordpress....>

Mehsi says

Out of the 10 stories, I liked 8 of them, so I am rating this 4 stars.

The book was pretty great, the stories are typical R.L. Stine though, and they often also have such an ending. The two stories I didn't like (and one I skipped) were How to Bargain with a dragon and Losers. I didn't care for Dragon stories in this one, it just didn't feel fitting and I also wasn't interested in it, so I

skipped it. The other one was Losers, I felt disgusted throughout most of the story, especially nearing the end. It was just horrific. And while I am all for teaching kids a lesson, this one was just too much, too horrific and too traumatic for anyone.

The other stories were great. I really liked The Halloween Dance and Are we there yet? With a good mention to My Imaginary Friend. All of these had good endings and in case of Are we there yet?, an ending I didn't see coming. That was a really fun one.

Each story is accompanied by one (2 page) illustration and also with an introduction with some information about the story or how the story was made. I really liked that these were added, they gave extra dimension to the book and at times made it a bit more scary.

But, like I said, quite a few of these stories have the typical R.L. Stine ending. Something happens, things are solved, but are they???? And at times I was just a bit annoyed with them. I just want the story to end, not have some kind of cliffhanger.

All in all though, I would really recommend this one to everyone. Be prepared to be scared. These stories are perfect if you have a short break and want to read something, each story is around 10 to 20 pages, so you can just read on and then continue with whatever you were doing.

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