



## Mr Mumbles

*Barry Hutchison*

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Kyle's imaginary friend from childhood is back... with a vengeance.

Kyle hasn't seen Mr Mumbles in years. And there's a good reason for that: Mr Mumbles doesn't exist.

But now Kyle's imaginary friend is back, and Kyle doesn't have time to worry about why. Only one thing matters: staying alive...

A major series from a fresh new talent, brought to you by the publisher that put horror on the map.

## Mr Mumbles Details

Date : Published February 4th 2010 by HarperCollinsChildren'sBooks (first published January 1st 2010)

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Author : Barry Hutchison

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## From Reader Review Mr Mumbles for online ebook

### Highness Atharva says

Invisible Fiends Book 1

\*Mr. Mumbles\* by Barry Hutchinson

I really looked forward to begin this YA horror, paranormal series. What I didn't know about the book was that it was aimed for a much younger audience of perhaps 10 or 11 years old. If you read Ven a hundred pages, you won't stumble upon a word that you don't understand- which in fact is a nice thing. The story is written in a simple first person POV narration by teenager Kyle. He imagined some friends in his past and they've come back to seek vengeance from him, but this time as horrible, scary enemies. The book begins with some kind of Armageddon in the world and then the entire thing is just a flashback. The 250 pages in the book cover a time period of roughly 5 hours at the most of a single day and it's fast-paced. Definitely fast paced. The author has laced in quite a lot of hints, Easter eggs and antagonist teasers which makes the reader anticipate it's sequel/ entire series itself. I mean to say, the author writes in such a style as to hint that everything that you're reading right now will be connected to the future books in the series. On a horror scale, I would rate this book as good as Goosebumps if not slightly better, but it really didn't scare me. What I liked most about the book was the locations, character interaction, psychological analysis of the characters and their mind playing games with them. I mean, the story is practically impossible (like all ghost stories are) but this one just crosses the line. How can just believing that a rubber arrow can turn into a deadly weapon actually turns into a metal arrow and kills of Mr. Mumbles. But, this book's entertaining. The most entertaining part was Kyle's meeting with his father and the scenes at 'The Darkest Corners'. I even liked how the storyline connected to Kyle's mother and his Invisible father, this turns it into a hardcore mystery and give the story a serious outlook. Now, Amanda is also another wonderful character that acts as Kyle's sidekick. For most of the part, you'll get to see freehand fighting, a hundred or so things breaking, Mr. Mumbles chasing Kyle and Amanda who fail to escape each and every time. What really freaked me out was the repaired condition of Kyle's home where a big battlestar broke out. I can't really say much because the book doesn't cover a lot of time frame. I really praise the book for putting facts and things in front of the reader and explaining each and every bit right from the beginning and blending some funny, dark and insane characters. Mr. Mumbles was the most boring part, he is just some imaginaries zombie like creature with the purpose to hunt down Kyle just because he stopped being a friend? You're currently at the bottom of my evil antagonists in books list. The swimming pool storyline and it's connection to the past was delightful as well as a bit shaky to read. I really liked the way My. Barry Hutchinson has crafted the story but he just made one big mistake- a dull, boring, ruthless villain . Otherwise, this is a perfect hit. I wish it detected more fan-base. I'm pretty excited to pick up the next book in the series. In the end, there'll still be some burning questions and for that I'll need to read Raggy Maggie. A fantastic protagonist with a haunting past and a yet more terrifying future. Let's see what happens, fingers crossed. I hope that the Williams/mini-bosses in the next book are more entertaining than this, they better be 'cause I just loved the story. The chapter titles and the font style is really freaky. Nice Reading!

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### Scott Quinn says

not incredibly scary but keeps you on edge if reading with a torch under your bed covers.

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## **Ms. Yingling says**

We start this book with Armageddon. Remember John Wilson's dictum that books for boys should have an explosion early on? The end of the world works, too.

So what's going on with Kyle? He's spending Christmas with his single mother and grandmother, but when he goes to his room, he hears a horrible scratching on the ceiling. Nothing but mice, right? Wrong. It's Mr. Mumbles, his imaginary friend, who is back and not happy. In between spine chilling descriptions of feeling watched and stalked and pulse pounding chase scenes, we find out that Mr. Mumbles, the once benign friend who helped Kyle work through some speech problems, has morphed into a huge, angry demon with sewn-shut, festing mouth and the taste for blood. Whew. Should not have read this just before bed. With the help of the enigmatic Ameena, Kyle destroys Mr. Mumbles, but his allies from the Darkest Corners are slathering at the threshold, waiting to attack in book two, *Raggy Maggie*.

Strengths: Perfect for my middle schoolers who want scary books. Right up there with Richardson's *The Devil's Footsteps* and Yancey's *The Monstrumologist*. I've tried to write scary scenes of people being chased, and it's not easy. This was a taut novel that also included intriguing mysteries. Is Kyle's father really his mother's imaginary friend? I want to know. Sadly...

Weaknesses: Not available in the US!!!! HarperCollins, what are you thinking? Yes, it's possible to obtain UK published books for my library, but usually cost prohibitive. This series is not even available through Baker and Taylor, which has carried more Joe Craig, Cathy Cassidy, and Robert Muchamore than Follett. Drat.

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## **buchtrunken says**

It can be very dangerous to have an imaginary friend. And for Kyle it is as dangerous as hell itself. Once decided to forget about his former best friend, Mr Mumbles, teenaged Kyle must fight him. And it's going to be a fight to the death.

This book is a crazy, dark, fantastic journey through Kyle's childhood, domestic secrets and a tightrope walk between imagination, dreams and the so called real life.

Thrilling, crazy, dark, unputdownable and never boring!

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## **Seitenhain says**

WAAAHHH!!! Oh Mann, ist das spannend!

Also: der Junge Kyle lebt mit seiner Mutter in einem kleinen Nest und eines kalten Wintertages taucht sein unsichtbarer Freund Mr. Mumbles aus Kindertagen wieder auf. Einziges Problem: Mr. Mumbles will jetzt nicht mehr spielen, sondern Rache, weil Kyle ihn im Laufe der Jahre vergessen hat! Zusammen mit der kämpferischen Ameena flieht er und muss sich die Frage stellen: Wie tötet man jemanden, der nicht existiert?

Das Buch hat nur 200 Seiten, aber Hutchinson hält den Spannungsbogen das ganze Buch hindurch oben und so hetzt Kyle von einem Horror ins nächste Schreckensszenario. Ich bin nicht gerade die zimperlichste, aber bei Horrorbüchern geht mir gerne nachts die Fantasie durch und so konnte ich Invisible Fiends nur bei Tageslicht lesen.

Mit spannenden Ereignissen und unvorhersehbaren Wendungen hält Hutchinson den Leser in Atem(not) und setzt zu Beginn eines neuen Spannungsbogens den Schlusspunkt. Wie unfair! Meine Fingernägel überleben das nicht!

Es dürfte klar geworden sein, dass ich das Buch total spannend fand und es verschlungen habe, weil ständig etwas neues passiert und man einfach weiterlesen muss! Ich bin gespannt, wie es mit Kyles neuen "Freunden" weitergeht und was es mit seinen Fähigkeiten auf sich hat.

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### **Lord Bobby says**

I really enjoyed great couldn't put down . Just went into another world.

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### **Clint says**

This book got a little monotonous with the two kids Kyle and Ameena fighting and running from the titular Mr Mumbles, it happens a few times and takes up, I'd say, about third of the book at least, maybe more. It was also not until almost the very end does the reader have any idea what's going on. It just opens and a few pages later there's a big evil dude chasing the protagonist around. One the plus side, the last few pages did set up a really interesting plot that will hopefully be fleshed out in later books. Almost Twilight Zone-ish in its oddness.

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### **Elen Caldecott says**

This book was great fun. I wouldn't want to read it alone in the house though. Mr Mumbles is properly scary. And really dangerous. And really hard to stop. And he's just for starters... I will be reading the rest of the series. In daytime.

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### **Jordyn says**

this was a brilliant book it had you at the edge of your seat and waiting in suspense to see what happened I can't wait to read the next one.

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### **Wolf Draven says**

Moje recenze:

### **Bev says**

Don't read this one on a dark night if you're all alone - it's scary! really enjoyed it and think it's great for kids over the age of 10 probably - a little frightening for younger kids!

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### **Ole Imsen says**

This book starts out with a very intriguing prologue, and after reading that I was really looking forward to finding out what happens.

In the first few chapters of the book you find out everything you need to know about Kyle and his situation. This is done in a natural way, and does not feel forced on the reader.

Hutchison also sets the tone for the book nicely, it doesn't take long for the first scary thing to happen. And there's plenty of scares to come later in the book, after all this is Horror.

The first person narrative works very well here. You get an instant feel for Kyle, and how the situation he's thrown into plays with his mind. And Hutchison is also very good at playing with the mind of the reader. It's difficult to get a grip on what is really happening, what is illusion and what is reality, and this helps keep an eerie atmosphere throughout the book.

The story unfolds at a quite rapid pace, there really is not much of a rest between the action sequences. And there is plenty of action in the book. Hutchison is also very good at keeping you mystified, things that seem ordinary can come back as haunting riddles later.

This is a very good debut by Hutchison. The story managed to grip me, and I will certainly get hold of the rest of the books in this series. And if you like a good horror story with a few twists and plenty of action along the way, I suggest you pick it up too.

I have to end this with a little note. As you may have noticed this book was published by HarperCollins Children's Books, and on the back cover there is a label that says 9+. This should in my opinion be treated like video-game labels, not fit for children under nine, but with no upper limit of how old you should be to enjoy it. My + is 27, and I see no problem in recommending this to anyone who likes a good scare regardless of age.

Review taken from my blog: <http://weirdmage.blogspot.com>

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### **Caroline says**

After a slow start this book became pretty good in the end, although suffering from being too predictable. But hey, it's a children's book, what did you expect?

May appear to be the weakest book in the series, but still worth a read.

(Although I have to mention that I really like the humour in it and the characters are very lovely and well created. I read the book within two afternoons/evenings. If you're looking for a book to scare the eff out of your kids, this should go on your shopping list.)

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### **Laura says**

A fantastic book, terrifying and funny at the same time. Interesting right from the start, and keeps the reader engaged throughout as we follow Kyle in his attempts to escape his murderous forgotten imaginary friend.

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### **Wallace Dempster says**

Mr Mumbles was a fantastic book which was at parts quite scary. The book is very absorbing and you can't put it as you want to see what is going to happen. The author is one of my favorites and I think that this book is very good.

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