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It all starts when Jared Grace finds their great uncle's book, 'Arthur Spiderwick's Field Guide to the Fantastic World Around You' and the Grace kids realize that they are not alone in their new house. Now the kids want to tell their story but the faeries will do everything they can to stop them.

The Field Guide Details

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Author : Tony DiTerlizzi , Holly Black

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From Reader Review The Field Guide for online ebook

C.G. Drews says

I read this for research purposes. I'm pretty sure a boggart is stealing my left socks. OKAY, NO. That's not why I'm researching it! I want to write children's books, and mine turn out too weird, so I thought I'd read more children's books and get a hang of the voice and style. This was an epic example. (It can't be more than 10K, right?) I really enjoyed it. I've watched the movie, and the first book is...what? The first 20 minutes of the movie?! It's such an adorably cute book! But now I'm impressed at how close the movie was following the book. Good stuff.

I like the quirkiness of the fencing. Adoring the illustrations. And the poems!

My only complaint is the mother. She's a bit weird. I mean, she was out *shopping for groceries* and got mad at them for being out of bed at night and in the kitchen. MAD. Angry? Why! They were looking for a squirrel in the walls, and goodness sakes, what type of grocery shop is open at night. Why couldn't she have gone in the morning? And why did she never believe her children?! Parents like that in books frustrate me.

Anyway. Adorable. Research done. I think I'll read a few more...you know. To solve what that boggart's doing with my socks.

Anne says

Very cute! I can see why kids like them. I'm sure I'll end up buying the complete set for mine!

Taylor Knight says

I read the Spiderwick Chronicles back when I was quite young, maybe eight or nine. My sister and I read the crap out these books (we must have read them 15 times, no joke) and I've been wanting to revisit this series and the wonderful fantasy world that Holly and Tony created for awhile now but I've finally gotten around to it.

The writing partnership of Holly Black and Tony DiTerlizzi is remarkable and this series is by far some of the most well written literature that I've ever read.

The three main characters, Jared, Simon, and Mallory, are so relatable and realistic. I can relate to each of them in a different way and I think most readers will feel the same.

Overall, I highly recommend this series to everyone of any age. The Field Guide is such an outstanding start to a series and I can see myself rereading this book a hundred times and still enjoy it just as much as the first time.

Amy says

A fun and quick read.

Luzmila? says

Reto #30 PopSugar 2018: Un libro con personajes que son gemelos.

Becky says

Just your typical 'move into an old creepy house, weird stuff starts happening, one of the kids gets blamed, and then they find a book that explains the existence of fairies/faeries/fey which solves their problems... while at the same time causing many more problems'.

Happens every day.

Also, I'm no expert in the sport of fencing, but I'm pretty sure that they don't call the weapon a sword, and someone who is serious about fencing, as Mallory apparently is, would know that.

I think that this book reads a little young, also. Not just for the length, which is REALLY short, but also in the style and feel of the writing. The characters are 9 year old twins and a 13 year old older sister, but if I had to peg an age range for the target audience, I'd go with 6 or 7 year olds.

Still, this is probably a fun and cute story for kids. I'm just less than impressed by it, considering that I'm a crotchety 30-something cat lady.

Cait • A Page with a View says

I might be out of the target age range for this series just a wee bit buuuuut better late than never.

P says

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Rachel says

Everything about the packaging and promotion of this book is delightful...the title, the mysterious notes

obscuring the back cover synopses, the inclusion of a letter from the three children protagonists to the author. All of that is very nice, but after reading the first installment, I can't help but feel a little robbed.

First of all, and forgive me for this, I can't help comparing the books to a more cleverly written and altogether smarter series, Lemony Snicket's "A Series of Unfortunate Events." Aesthetic similarities aside (and there are many), both series center around the somewhat fantastical adventures of three children, and, more importantly, both series emphasize the importance of children solving their own problems. I'm all for that.

What irks me about the Chronicles is the authors' lack of subtlety and creativity; take this passage, for instance: "Jared watched him go and wondered what he could do. Could he really solve anything by himself?" Ironically, the authors seem to underestimate the problem-solving abilities of the kids that are reading these books. Not to mention the first book ends with hardly an introduction; breaking the series into a five-book set feels like a cheap trick to make a profit, and I think the overall flow of the story suffers because of it.

The Chronicles are not without merit; there is some enjoyable dialogue and the illustrations are terrific. I think the series could be truly engaging if the authors focused more on the story, rather than on spelling out the moral behind it.

George Jankovic says

I like this book for kids (8-11). It's spooky at times as you follow two twin boys and their sister in a creepy, old house.

Enjoy!

Jackie "the Librarian" says

Fairies are DANGEROUS. And they don't want you to know about them. I love that this book takes the question of fairies and brownies and pixies seriously, it gives this story its power. I love the setting: the rambling old house out in the country, the secret room, the shadowy feeling that something is watching... And I love the format of this series, with the uneven edges to the pages, the small size of the books. They just feel *cool*.

This is the first book of the series, and it starts off strong. Subsequent books in the series were less interesting to me, I think this is a series you need to read all of in one fell swoop.

Alexis Ayala says

Las crónicas de Spiderwik nos cuenta la historia de Simón, Jared y Mallory, tres hermanos que se mudan con su madre a una casa de la época victoriana en medio de un lugar apartado de la ciudad. Pronto, los ruidos de la casa, los mensajes en el polvo y aquel libro lleno de criaturas fantásticas que encontraron los llevará a querer descubrir qué hay detrás de todo eso.

Volver a estos libros después de años me trae un sin fin de recuerdos de aquella primera vez que lo leí. En esta ocasión, vuelvo a ellos con más experiencia lectora y tal vez hasta más exigencia de mi parte.

Los libros están destinados a un público infantil, y cumplen su función: entretener, divertirnos y provocarnos sentimientos que a los primeros lectores entusiasman demasiado.

Los personajes nos causan empatía y la historia nos lleva poco a poco a lo que parece ser un gran misterio. Las ilustraciones son de mis favoritas. Hay tantos detalles muy cuidados y me encanta la forma en la que acompañan a la narración.

En conclusión, pienso que la historia es simpática, sin embargo, quiero descubrir algo mejor con los siguientes libros, a pesar de que ya los leí hace tiempo y no recuerdo a la perfección lo que sucede. Aún así el libro me parece bueno ♥?

Brooke says

This had everything a children's book should have: imagination. This was really great!

? Sh3lly - Grumpy Name-Changing Wanderer ? says

I read this with my daughter for a school book report. It features three children and their now-single mom, as they move to a dilapidated house owned by an elderly relative.

Mallory is the eldest and likes fencing. Simon is one of the twin boys and loves animals and science. Jared is the other twin and appears to be the trouble-maker of the bunch. They discover they may not be the only inhabitants after stumbling upon a hidden attic with a field guide full of details about fairies.

Crazy things start happening to the kids, much to the bewilderment - and frustration - of their mother, and the kids must figure out what (or who) is behind the mischief.

So I asked my daughter how many stars she would give it if 5 was "one of my favorite books" and 1 was "I hated it." She said 4. I think I would agree. This is a very short introduction to the world and premise and I am sure the later books will get into more adventure.

Apparently, the father divorced the mother and abandoned the kids? I wasn't quite clear on that, but it mentions "dad leaving" many times. Kind of a serious topic, but it doesn't give any details.

Bangadybangz says

This was such a fun little book! Short and sweet, quirky and magical, loved it! I've always been a fan of anything to do with fairies and folklore, so I'm definitely pumped to delve more into this exciting world!

Reem Alkhalaf says

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bella ? [bella farren] says

3 / 5 stars

The Spiderwick Chronicles movie had been a family favourite in my household for years, my sister and I watched the movie a ridiculous amount of times and yet, I never read the series. I was curious when I picked this up, to see how much of the story I remembered and how accurate the film had been.

This story follows the Grace family, who were forced to move into the house of a crazy Great Aunt when they couldn't afford to live in New York after the divorce. The three siblings; Jared and Simon, nine year old twins and their older sister Malory, thirteen, were perfect. They were the typical bickering siblings who drove each other crazy but also supported and trusted each other.

The main character in this book was Jared, who was treated as the black sheep of the family, suspected by their mother to have anger issues after getting into a fight at his last school. He was so cute and misunderstood, blamed for the mischief and mayhem an angry Brownie created in their new home.

I was surprised by just how short this book was, I finished it in one *very* short sitting, so I'm sure it will be easy enough to get through the series. It was fast-paced and exciting, covering what ended up being the very beginning of the movie. I'm intrigued to see more of the fantastical creatures and the way the family situation progresses. I remember Aunt Lucinda was always a favourite of mine, so I can't wait until she appears!

Kristina says

I remember reading and loving this book when I was 10 or 11 years old. So when I saw it in one of my local charity shops I immediately bought it. I definitely don't regret it. I think I loved it just as much as my child self. Maybe because I am such a huge fan of all things paranormal.

I like that there are drawings throughout the book which are absolutely gorgeous by the way. :)

It follows the adventure of two brothers and a sister into the magical world right beside the house they live in. There are descriptions of many magical creatures - like their appearance, habits, etc. I find this simply amazing!

Patrick says

I'm reading these books for the second time. But it's been years since I picked them up, and it's the first time I'm reading them with my son. And both of those things make a huge difference to my experience.

First, and perhaps most importantly, my little boy likes them. He's about five and a half, which is younger than the target age for these books, but he's into them.

(In the interest of full disclosure, Oot isn't the most critical of readers at this point in his life. He pretty much likes all books.)

I like the books too. I think they do a great job of blending traditional folklore and the modern world. What's more, they borrow from the traditional lore, and expand on it in interesting ways.

What's more I **really** like the illustrations. I'd forgotten the books were illustrated, and that really makes it nicer when reading them to my boy. It adds a lot to the experience. I wish I had thought to look through these books for some pointers before I did *Slow Regard of Silent things* with Nate Taylor.

All that said, I have some quibbles with these books as a parent. Things that never occurred to me the first time I was reading them. I'll save those comments for the reviews I'll write of the later books in the series, as the issues I'm going to be talking about are more prevalent there...

C.P. Cabaniss says

About a year and a half ago I found this entire five book series at a thrift store and decided to buy them. I didn't know much about the series, other than that there was a movie made, but for five bucks I decided to take a chance. And now, over a year later, I have finally started reading them. And I'm really glad I have.

This first book is about the Grace children: Mallory, Jared, and Simon. Their lives have changed quite drastically in a short amount of time and they find themselves in a new home. Things get interesting when they hear things in the walls and Jared discovers a field guide to faeries.

The plot is simple because this is focused toward children, but well detailed and clever. The writing is also really excellent and engaging. Although targeted at a younger audience, this can easily be enjoyed by adults. My sister and I read this first book together and plan to continue reading the series in the coming days/weeks. I hope that the remainder of the series holds the same charm as this first installment.

We're excited to share these books with our six and seven year old niece and nephew, who we think will really enjoy the story and humor.

The illustrations are also really great and should work well when trying to engage younger children in the story. I highly recommend this first book.

