



Hoodwinked

Arthur Howard

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With gentle humor and a touch of magic, Arthur Howard reveals how true friendship sometimes turns up in the most surprising places.

Hoodwinked Details

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Author : Arthur Howard

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From Reader Review Hoodwinked for online ebook

Jen says

Mitzi is a little witch that loves creepy things. She's searching for a pet that will be just right for her and of course, it needs to be scary and creepy! She gets a variety of different pets, but none of them are just right until she finds the PERFECT pet. Great Halloween type story that isn't scary at all for the little ones to hear.

Abigail says

Mitzi was a little witch who loved all things creepy, from the spiders and cobwebs which populated her home, to her many relatives (Uncle Churly, Aunt Malice, Madam Vex). So naturally, when she set out to select a pet, she wanted the creepiest available. What she discovered instead, however, was that creepy pets don't always offer the most satisfying companionship. Then a detestably adorable little kitten turned up on her doorstep, and after a very pleasant evening together, Mitzi decided that looks weren't everything...

Hoodwinked is my first picture-book by Arthur Howard, but it won't be my last! I thought the story was a lot of fun, and appreciated the message that common interests and emotional connection are more important than image, when selecting a companion. I also thought the illustrations were just adorable, tying in to all the creepy themes of the Halloween season, without being that frightening. The only thing I can find to criticize, is the fact that Mitzi takes and returns a number of animals, in the course of the story, something that, in real life, I'm not sure should be encouraged. Still, that's a minor point, and I think a responsible adult could explain that point. Overall, just a winsomely witchy tale, perfect for a Halloween read-aloud!

Brenda says

A little witch girl named Mitzi is in search of just the right creepy pet. She has many a failed attempt before finding just the right one on her door step. The illustrations are charming and warm as well as putting light to this little witches predicament. In the end it teaches the message that "it's what's inside that counts." Hoodwink "to dupe or trick". What a perfect name for a perfect pet.

Emma Zvonar says

This is a fun and entertaining book to read at any time of the year, not only in the fall nearing Halloween. This story is focused around finding the perfect pet which would be a fun topic to introduce with children as many of them either have pets or are wishing for one. The book has humor and fun twists and turns which will not only appeal to many readers but also keep them entertained.

Angie says

This is such a cute story. Mitzi is a witch looking for a creepy pet. She takes home several creepy pets but none are willing to go ghost hunting with her or watch scary movies. Finally, a pet comes along who is not creepy--but adorable--YUCK. Despite being adorable, her new pet becomes Mitzi's best friend and a great ghost hunting companion.

Rebecca says

This is a really cute book, fun to read and nice illustrations. It prompted a very thoughtful discussion with my five-year-old about what animals he thought would make good pets.

Kathryn says

I can't exactly pinpoint why I fell in love with this book but I found it absolutely adorable and sweet and gently "spooky" and perfect for Halloween! The little witch wants a pet that is suitably creepy, because she loves creepy things and all her family members have very creepy pets. But none of the pets she finds at the deliciously creepy pet store are quite companionable enough for her. Until one day a creature appears on her door step--but doesn't look anything like what she wanted for a pet! So charming and fun, with great illustrations, and a message that transcends the season: it's what's inside that counts! :-)

Cathleen Grissom says

This book is perfect for readers who love Halloween. This picture book is geared towards readers ages 3 to 7 but older children might also enjoy it. "Mitzi liked creepy things." Mitzi is a young witch looking for her first pet, a creepy pet. She goes through several pets, each one creepier than the last but all with traits that don't make for a very good pet. Mitzi is determined to find the creepiest pet she can, after all that's what a witch needs, or so Mitzi thinks. Mitzi soon learns that "looks aren't everything".

I really enjoyed this story, mostly because of the illustrations, but also because of the lesson in the story. I felt that the main character was likable, and her problem was relatable. Anyone who has spent time looking for the pet just right for them can relate to this story.

Matt Garcia says

Cute...I mean creepy book with some awesome illustrations although I personally would've chosen the warthog ? as my pet haha.

Caily Klenke says

Cute book about a girl who's unable to find the perfect pet. A dilemma many kids find themselves in when given the opportunity to pick out an animal.

Elizabeth Watkins says

This book was very cute and funny while also teaching a great message. If read around Halloween it would be great to use to remind children that friendships come in all shapes, sizes, and from people (or animals) that you might not expect. The illustrations helped tell the story and led to the possibility of asking questions for the students (example: How many warthogs are on these pages?).

Edward Creter says

A little witch wants a pet for herself, but only if the little creature is ugly as sin! She finds this necessary to ease her black soul! (Awww!) So she sees what she can find with different uglies but it's to no avail: all the ugly ones fall short. They don't seem understanding and they just lay around. Finally she comes upon something so unbearably cute it's sickening (to her, as she IS a witch)! Can she open her heart to what's cute in life? And overall, what does this say about us? Should we ourselves judge by what's considered "cute" and not see the beauty in the "ugly"? Or am I missing the point (as always happens?)? Anyway, it's a cute story and kids should sample it and see what transpires.

Lisa Vegan says

This story and its pictures are beyond adorable, and the title is the most apt title of just about any book that I've ever read. Someone is indeed hoodwinked.

Mitzi the witch likes creepy things and wants the creepiest pet she can find. Although lots of creepy creatures, foods, etc. are in the book, they aren't really scary; they're amusing and fun. Mitzi doesn't get exactly what she'd planned but it's a wonderful ending. (I do particularly like the specific type and appearance of the pet at the end of the book.)

There is a great message here about outward appearances not being as important as someone's personality and friendship, and even how best to adopt a pet (although I wasn't a fan of returning pets or pet stores where pets are purchased that are also a part of the story, but it all works out in the end, in my opinion.) I got a kick out of Mitzi's confession to her pet about what she fears.

From the cover illustration that made me smile (mostly because of the expression on Mitzi's face but also because of the way her various animal companions are drawn) the illustrations really appealed to me. There are lots of enjoyable extras, such as the names on the cereal boxes. There is a lot to view on every page.

This is a charming book for all year long and a perfect Halloween book for kids who don't want to be scared.

Asha Smith says

Mitzi likes creepy things. And a creepy witch needs a creepy pet. Will it be the toad, the bat or the warthog? Nope, none of them are good enough for a creepy witch. She finds her inner creeper with a little kitten who she doesn't think is very cute and too cute for a witch. But she finds that the kitten can hang out with her and do all the things she does. She names the kitten Hoodwinked. This is a good story for the Halloween season.

Mrs. MA says

Howard creates a cute look at finding the perfect pet.
