



Bedtime Monsters

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Creaking . . . Squeaking . . . Gnashing . . . Glinking . . .

Under the bed, deep in the closet, behind the radiator . . . the bedtime monsters are stirring, and poor Arnold is too scared to fall asleep. He's powerless to get rid of them—and they don't seem to be more scared of him than he is of them, no matter what his mother says. But even the most terrible, horrible monster has to be afraid of *something*, as Arnold eventually finds out in this empowering tale of harnessing the imagination and conquering nighttime fears.

Bedtime Monsters Details

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From Reader Review Bedtime Monsters for online ebook

Elaine says

Very good story of a young boy who either did not want to sleep just because or maybe he was afraid of monsters. The audience enjoyed what happened next as the monster or monsters and the young boy, Arnold encountered each other. I think this would make a great bedtime story to anyone who is afraid of such creatures.

Jennifer says

I really enjoyed this spin on the monster under the bed. Perfect for a preschool monster story time!

Jocelyn says

For me, this book was too much like Sednak's There's a Monster in My Closet but not nearly as good. The concept was not original. It felt like a new spin on an old familiar favorite, and the new spin didn't do it justice. The text is dialogue heavy, and doesn't give much cue as to who is speaking until after the quote, making it an awkward read-aloud. The illustrations were ho-hum.

That being said, my kids wanted me to read it several times, so there must be some appeal. I just don't see it.

Miss Sarah says

A young boy is having trouble sleeping because monsters keep joining him. preschool and up for length and concept.

Jen says

[But instead, Arnold meets his feared foe only to learn the monster is more afraid of another monster. Then *that* monster appears only to say *he* fears another monster. And so it goes, until Arnold's bed is overly crowded with scaredy monsters. (hide spoiler)]

Tracie says

Arnold, who fears that a Terrible Toe Biter lives in his closet, is too scared to fall asleep--until he meets the monsters and learns that they are afraid of things, too.

Cute story, but I'm just not a fan of Josh Schneider's style of illustration--the weird, unfilled circles that he uses for eyes creep me out.

Susan says

With some adaptation of text to read it aloud, this was fun to do with voices for the monsters.

Barbara says

Although this one may please many young readers and alleviate their fears, this one just left me feeling lukewarm. Arnold is brave enough during the day, but when he heads to bed, all those noises he hears in the dark frighten him. As the monsters come out of the woodwork and join him one by one, he realizes that each of them has its own fears. Arnold gains confidence as each monster reveals its worries, and in the end, it turns out that he's the very thing they all fear. The watercolor, pen and ink, and colored pencil illustrations show the monsters in all their scary glory, and will make young readers laugh. The images of the monster-filled bed and monsters hiding under sheets are funny.

Lorraine says

Starring the Terrible Toe Biter, Horrible Teeth Gnasher, Winged Fargle, Grozny Buzzler, and a little boy name Arnold. The group of monsters comes out at bedtime, but each one is scared of one of the others. As each comes out, he crawls in bed with Arnold to be safe. But then they all agree that the thing they are most afraid of is something called Arnold. When Arnold tells them his name, they all disappear.

My grandson enjoyed the humor of the monsters all being afraid of the little boy.

Tori Thompson says

This book was about a little boy named Arnold, whose mother kept trying to put to bed, but he said he was still 'destroying New York'. Finally, after he finishes playing and eats his bed time snack he goes into bed, but he asked his mother if he could sleep with her because he was scared of the terrible toe biter. The terrible toe biter said he was scared of the horrible tooth gnasher, and the horrible tooth gnasher was scared of winged fargles, winged fargles was scared of the grozny buzzler. Long story short, the grozny buzzler appeared into Arnolds room and asked if there was any Arnolds because he was scared of them. He said Arnolds were terrible because on destroyed New York. So in the end of the day, all of the monsters ended up being scared of Arnold.

Amanda Suiter says

Schneider, J. (2013). *Bedtime monsters*. New York: Clarion Books.

During the day, Arnold loves conquering the world acting like each and every monster he can imagine. He takes on the animal crackers and destroys the city of New York! But when night falls, Arnold finds himself frightened by the thought of monsters under his bed and his closet. The monsters visit him one by one... But all seem to be scared of the same thing. Will the monsters and Arnold team together to beat the scariest monster of them all? Or... maybe the scariest monster has to be scared of something, right?

I would use Bloom's Taxonomy level 4, Applying. I would have the children write about a time when they were scared in bed and maybe that something bad was going to get them. I would then have them write about what ways they could fight off the scary things in their own bedrooms. I would have them imagine that they were Arnold and different monsters kept coming in and ask them what they would do if they were in that position.

Melissa Mcavoy says

Right before bedtime Arnold has been watching a scary movie and indulging in a little destruction of his own: Destroying an imagined New York and biting the heads off animal crackers. But when it's time to sleep he is suddenly afraid. Left on his own, by an enviably firm parent, he is joined, one by one, by all the scary monsters he imagines inhabit his room. Each afraid of the next monster up the food chain and all take shelter in Arnold's bed until a resolution is found. The great charm of the book is found in its excellent illustrations. What Arnold imagines is shown in outlines, much like Kay Thompson's memorable illustrations in Eloise. The names of the monsters are inventive and satisfying and this would make an excellent read aloud.

Yagyrlr says

Very silly fun book

Paula says

After pretending to be a monster that destroys New York City during the day, Arnold is afraid to face his own bedtime monsters and there are several. Mom tries to placate him with the old saw: "I'm sure they're as scared of you as you are of them." But after his familiar bedtime rituals (eating animal crackers, brushing teeth, etc.) and lights out, Arnold's monsters appear: the terrible toe biter, the horrible tooth gnasher, the winged fargle, and the grozny buzzler. Each in turn is afraid of the next, and they crowd into Arnold's bed for protection. They start sharing tales of the monster that destroyed NYC and bit the heads off lions, tigers, and elephants—the Arnold. Arnold soon realizes they are talking about him and when he reveals his identity to the monsters, they quickly vacate his bed and Arnold can finally fall asleep. Bedtime monsters are great fodder for bedtime stories. And this one is a good choice. The amusing text allows youngsters to laugh at themselves, their fears and their monsters. The water-colored pen and ink monsters are as funny looking as they are scary. There are more than a few sight gags and the author has coined several new words for sounds that go bump in the night. This is a good choice for preschoolers' bedtimes and definitely for sharing with a

parent or caretaker.

Henry Martin says

this was a cute little story with a nice role reversal at the end. The monsters themselves were fairly imaginative, so three stars it gets. The kids were laughing, and I mean, seriously laughing.
