



The Giggler Treatment

Roddy Doyle , Brian Ajhar (Illustrator)

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A cheeky tale of revenge, dogs and poo by a seriously famous writer. Laugh out loud.

The Giggler Treatment Details

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From Reader Review The Giggler Treatment for online ebook

Alexandra Pedro says

Este livro foi muito divertido de ler. Adorei a história. Muito original!

É um livro que é difícil de parar de ler a partir de dada altura porque se fica muito entusiasmado com toda a situação!

Acho que é especialmente interessante como leitura para crianças porque tem muito por onde dispersar (eu dispersei muito enquanto lia e imagino que esse fenómeno seja bastante aumentado no caso de crianças!)

mas pode ser muito bem apreciado por adultos mais imaginativos também!

A escrita e as ilustrações são perfeitas, na minha opinião.

-

[EN] This book was very fun to read. I loved the story. Very original!

It is a book that is hard to stop reading from one point on because the reader becomes very excited about the whole situation!

I find it especially interesting as reading for children because it has a lot to disperse (I scattered a lot while reading and I imagine that this phenomenon is greatly increased in the case of children!) But it can be very well appreciated by most imaginative adults as well!

The writing and illustrations are perfect, in my opinion.

Kathryn (Nine Pages) says

First published on my blog, *Nine Pages* .

I was introduced to this story and to Roddy Doyle by A. LaFaye in a History and Criticism of Children's Literature class at Hollins University. I fell in love with it perhaps almost instantaneously, opening its package at the dinner table and promptly passing it around or reading the back cover's blurb aloud (I forget which). I read it before class, then for class, and several times since term ended (two years ago, but it never feels that long ago).

The story, coming to us from Ireland, solicitously translates the Irish expressions for Americans so that we know that Mr. Mack, a biscuit tester, spends his day with cookies. Also we are ready to translate, "Quick! Quick! My cookie is bleeding! Give me a Band-Aid!" to "Quick! Quick! My biscuit is bleeding! Give me a plaster!" (7).

That's just a taste of the absurd, tongue-in-cheek humor of Roddy Doyle's book.

I have always been partial to this style of nonsense.

There's a lot in this book that reminds me of some childhood favorites of mine: Louis Sachar's *Wayside School* books particularly but also Dr. Seuss and Shel Silverstein, all men who don't underestimate children's intelligence or their ability to pick up on absurdity and word play.

The chapter titles in particular are wonderful examples of the playfulness with which Doyle treats traditional

fiction: “Chapter One,” “The Return of Chapter One,” “A Chapter That Isn’t Really a Chapter Because Nothing Really Happens in it But We’ll Call it Chapter Four,” “Chapter Something”.... Somewhere around “Chapter Sixteen” (which comes after “Chapter Two Million and Seven”), Doyle gives up on numbering the chapters and begins to use the questions that the chapters answer as headers: “How Many Inches Now?,” “Where in the World is Rover? {II}”....

Doyle’s is metafiction. It shatters the 4th wall to such an extent that there’s hardly any wall left.

He is a present narrator and acknowledges the fiction of his story. Doyle speaks directly to the audience about himself as a person and as a writer. He discusses his country and its language and references his grandmother (“I was tempted to put in a dinosaur in a leather jacket who bullies old people, but my grandmother wouldn’t lend me her leather jacket”) (7) and mother, after whom he names a chapter: “This Chapter Is Named After My Mother Because She Said I Could Stay Up Late if I Named it After Her: Chapter Mammy Doyle” (49).

The audience occasionally interjects with a question too, making them a presence within the text if not in the story.

Characters also sometimes interrupt the text to interact with the author.

Beyond the hilarity of this play with the traditional narrative style, Doyle’s story tells of a loving family (always a wonderful thing) able to do extraordinary things through their love, like understand the complex sentences of their youngest daughter, expressed using only the word “A-bah.” Well, that’s not perhaps the main focus of the story. The main focus of the story is the dog poo left by the Gigglers, invisible creatures bent on punishing adults for mistreating children. The Gigglers witness Mr. Mack losing his patience with his two sons but not the apology that he later gives them, and so they seek out a big squishy pile of poo and scoot it onto the sidewalk for Mr. Mack to step into on his way to work. The Mack children learning by chance of the Gigglers’ planned revenge set out with their mother and the dog Rover (who provided the poo) to save Mr. Mack from this misplaced punishment. Four steps of Mr. Mack’s encompass the whole of the 105-page story with all of its bunny trails and backstory.

Coreena McBurnie says

I personally love Roddy Doyle's novels. The Irish author normally writes adult fiction, so when I ran across *The Giggler Treatment*, I scooped it up for my seven year old son. That night, I started reading it to him and, well, let's just say the humour was right up his alley. The story had both of us laughing our heads off. This is a story that he was quite capable of reading himself, but we could not resist the fun of reading it together. It is the first in a trilogy called “The Rover Adventures.”

The entire story takes place in the few moments it takes Mister Mack to step, or not step (I don't want to give the ending away), in a mound of dog poo. This sounds unlikely, but Roddy Doyle pulls it off beautifully. He creates a wonderful tension and children cannot wait to read the next chapter as Mister Mack's foot inches its way closer to the poo.

Where does this poo come from? Well, it turns out that there are Gigglers out there, who cannot be seen because they can expertly camouflage themselves. Their mission is to punish adults who are mean to children by making them step in dog poo, and a large amount of this dog poo comes from an obliging, and now rich, dog named Rover.

There is so much in this story for kids to love: poo, punishing adults, Gigglers who are on their side,

silliness, page turning tension and lots of laughs. When we were done, my son started making a list of the friends he wanted to lend it to. To me, that is the best recommendation, to have enjoyed a book so much that you cannot wait to share it with others.

Hint: if your child likes and can read Captain Underpants, they will probably like this. But it is not only for boys, several of the girls in my son's class have read The Giggler Treatment and loved it.

Sue says

My 5 year old is just starting to have an interest in chapter books and this one is a good one to start with! Some of the chapters are one page long. I also loved the explanation of differences between British and American English. And, of course, the poo jokes.

Emily says

My son and I giggled. We liked the seagull best.

Duane says

I want to say first that I think if I was between the ages of 7 & 10 and a boy, I'd probably have enjoyed this book a lot more. The book is based on "potty" humor so go from there. Gigglers are little creatures that punish adults who are unjust or mean to children. The entire book is based on a pile of dog "doo" and the process of getting a father to step into it. You can go from there pretty much on your own.

Kate Hastings says

Grades K-2. RL 500. The next time you step in poo-- it's time to consider how you've been treating your children recently. Because the Gigglers look out for children. Whenever an adult treats them unfairly, the Gigglers give the the "treatment" by planting poo in their path. And that's what happens to poor Mr. Mack, the kindly cookie taster. After a bad day listening to the uninteresting Cream Crackers, he is looking forward to his favorite day. But the poo could ruin it all-- unless the dog and children can save the day. Very silly. A lot of poo. My son loved the humor.

Angela says

My lad and I loved his story - what could be more fun than getting revenge on mean grownups by making them step in ginormous piles of poo. And Rover is awesome - one of the best dog characters in kids' books that I've encountered. Highly recommended for young readers and their parents alike.

Peter Millett says

I have never seen children's comedy written this way before. It was a shock to the system and a guilty pleasure at the same time. If I could ever write a book one tenth as funny as this I would happily retire from writing tomorrow. If you don't wet your pants laughing at this tale then quickly go and see a doctor. Something could be wrong with your bladder.

Bobparr says

Non si può vivere solo di libri per adulti :-)) Questo è non solo per adulti, ma *anche* per bambini. Educativo per entrambi, dalla penna di D. è uscito un libro buffo, molto creativo e altrettanto intelligente. Visto l'utilizzo continuo della parola 'cacca' e di qualche 'scoreggia', non puo' non essere apprezzato dai bambini in età prescolare. Rimane grottesca la figura del gabbiano, che diventa di difficile spiegazione razionale. Anche se, per parziale consolazione, il libro è ben lungi dall'esserlo...

Brad says

The Giggler Treatment is all about poo.
So if you too are a fan of the poo,
Like I too am a fan of the poo,
Then Rover's pile is the poo for you.

If you're a bad Mom or a crabby Dad,
An adult who likes to make kids sad,
A nasty old vampire named Bloody Vlad
Or a President who won by a hanging chad.

If you're a grumpy Gus who yells and yells
A cook who always leaves in oyster shells,
Or a big old tattletale who always tells
You best be prepared for stinky smells.

Cause the Gigglers, they will not let you
Leave this place without a dose of dog poo
On the bottom side of your size ten shoe.
There, I've given you your only clue.

You must do what Mister Mack dids,
And always be nice to your little kids,
Otherwise you'll have a pair of Blids,
That smell of gooey, pooey skids.

Dolly says

This is the first book in the Rover Adventures Trilogy by Roddy Doyle. We recently read Rover Saves Christmas, not realizing that it was the second book in the trilogy. So, of course, we had to borrow this book from our local library, too.

This story is even better, with an impeccable sense of comic timing and enough potty humor to entertain elementary school-age children. The narrative is so much fun to read aloud, especially with the crazy chapter titles.

We really enjoyed reading this book together and our girls have been repeating lines from this book over and over. We will certainly have to borrow The Meanwhile Adventures very soon!

Did you know that a trilogy has three books - isn't that interesting? Cream crackers...gotta love 'em!

Kuruccha says

Siamo seri: un libro che riesce a mantenere con maestria, dalla prima all'ultima pagina, la tensione drammatica data dal piede di un uomo che sta per calpestare della cacca di cane è - a prescindere; a mani basse, proprio - un libro che vale la pena di essere letto.

Se poi ci aggiungiamo i titoli di capitoli più strani e entusiasmanti che si siano mai visti su carta stampata, beh, proprio non c'è storia.

Se l'ho trovato così meraviglioso io che ho trent'anni, non oso nemmeno pensare quanto potrebbe amarlo un bambino. Consigliatissimo.

smalls says

I learned that if adults do not treat kids fairly or kindly, they will step in a big hot steaming, squishy pile of pooh.

I really like this book and the idea behind it. But I wish they would have made the childrens behavior a little less. If my kids had broken my window the same way for the fifth time in a row, I would have done the same thing as poor Mr. Mack. And then some.

I would have liked it 100% if they were being punished for something trivial, or something they didn't even do. Such as not flushing the toilet but it was really the dad who didnt' flush or something more like that.

I loved everything else about this book. It was funny, cute, creative, adventurous, and just makes you smile all around. I can tell that any kids that read this or have it read to them will laugh out loud! That one bit is the only reason I didn't give it five stars.

Barry Pierce says

My favourite book.
