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Seven Spiders Spinning (Hamlet Chronicles)

Gregory Maguire

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Gregory Maguire : Seven Spiders Spinning (Hamlet Chronicles) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Seven Spiders Spinning (Hamlet Chronicles):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Delightful StoryBy AnneI have used this delightful little book with middle school and older elementary students for many years. It is a fun read.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Not very happyBy NateThe book itself is an enjoyable book. However, it was advertised as hardcover and I received a paperback. The book also looks nothing like this picture and has a large tear on the back cover. This is not a book in good shape! So I guess you should remember that looks can be deceiving.0 of 0 people found the following

review helpful. Five StarsBy Michelle O. GiffordGood book

What happens when seven deadly Siberian Snow Spiders from before the dawn of time invade a contemporary classroom in rural Vermont? Bedlam, and one of the funniest, creepiest, ickiest middle-grade Halloween books ever written! Demon spiders, lover spiders, greedy spiders, sensitive spiders they all go on heroic quests that get entangled in classroom rivalries and local soap operas. . . . Everything is part of the comic brew, from the nightly news and Spidergate to Dracula, The Wizard of Oz, Charlottes Web and Little Miss Muffet. BL. A fast, delightfully entertaining romp. K. Notable Children's Books of 1995 (ALA)

From Publishers Weekly Among the ingredients of this high-camp fantasy-mystery (besides the eponymous arachnids) are a club of seven elementary school girls, a meddling reporter named Meg Snoople and a romance between an ill truck driver and his nurse. Ages 8-12. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. From School Library Journal Grade 3-6-Seven tarantulas preserved in a glacier since prehistoric times are discovered, fall out of their refrigerated crate on their way to Harvard scientists, and thaw in rural, present-day Vermont. Given this premise, readers follow the rather intelligent creatures' trail of poisonous love and revenge. The objects of their affection (and later their hate) are The Tattletales, a group of girls whose school rivals are the Copycats (boys). The two groups finally call a truce and combine forces to rescue their beloved teacher, Miss Earth, when she receives a deadly bite. As the tale progresses and each of the arachnids approaches its potential victim, the suspense builds. However, there is quite a bit of tongue-in-cheek humor here, as well. Characters are almost caricatures--the standard bossy girl, studious boy, motherly school aide, and too-good-to-be-true pretty teacher. Yet, somehow it all comes together to create a funny, shivery story of ancient Siberian snow spiders and the problems they cause in a peaceful New England village. The book is a bit long, but would make a great read-aloud and a satisfying choice for fans of humorous horror. Beth Tegart, Oneida City Schools, NY Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist Gr. 4-6. In a broad farce, reminiscent of the gross fun and fantasy of Roald Dahl and Mother Goose, seven deadly tarantulas from before the dawn of time invade a contemporary classroom in rural Vermont, where the kids are preparing a Halloween pageant of horrors. Demon spiders, lover spiders, greedy spiders, sensitive spiders--they all go on heroic quests that get entangled in classroom rivalries and local soap operas. Some of the parody is adult and self-conscious, and few kids will get the arch allusions to postmodern rhetoric or to scholarly epics, but they'll love the mockery of popular culture. Everything is part of the comic brew, from the nightly news and Spidergate to Dracula, The Wizard of Oz, Charlotte's Web, and Little Miss Muffet. In fact, this is the stuff of many a grade-school skit. Hazel Rochman