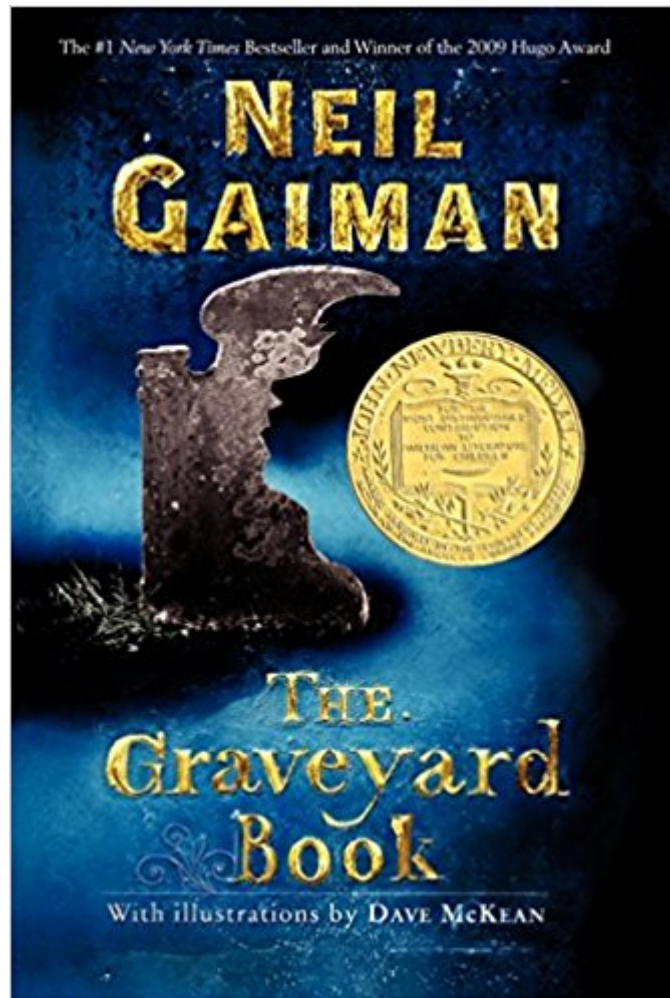




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# The Graveyard Book



## Synopsis

The original paperback edition of a perennial favorite, *The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman, which has sold more than one million copies and is the only novel to win both the Newbery Medal and the Carnegie Medal. Bod is an unusual boy who inhabits an unusual place—•he’s the only living resident of a graveyard. Raised from infancy by the ghosts, werewolves, and other cemetery denizens, Bod has learned the antiquated customs of his guardians’ time as well as their ghostly teachings—•such as the ability to Fade so mere mortals cannot see him. Can a boy raised by ghosts face the wonders and terrors of the worlds of both the living and the dead? *The Graveyard Book* is the winner of the Newbery Medal, the Carnegie Medal, the Hugo Award for best novel, the Locus Award for Young Adult novel, the American Bookseller Association—•s —•“Best Indie Young Adult Buzz Book,—• a Horn Book Honor, and Audio Book of the Year.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 820 (What’s this?)

Paperback: 320 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins; Reprint edition (August 1, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0060530944

ISBN-13: 978-0060530945

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.9 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 1,896 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,248 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #6 in —• Books > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Horror > Ghosts #6 in —• Books > Children’s Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Spine-Chilling Horror #58 in —• Books > Children’s Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy & Magic

Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 and up

## Customer Reviews

In *The Graveyard Book*, Neil Gaiman has created a charming allegory of childhood. Although the book opens with a scary scene—a family is stabbed to death by “a man named Jack”—the story quickly moves into more child-friendly storytelling. The sole survivor of the attack—an 18-month-old baby—escapes his crib and his house, and toddles to a nearby graveyard. Quickly

recognizing that the baby is orphaned, the graveyard's ghostly residents adopt him, name him Nobody ("Bod"), and allow him to live in their tomb. Taking inspiration from Kipling's *The Jungle Book*, Gaiman describes how the toddler navigates among the headstones, asking a lot of questions and picking up the tricks of the living and the dead. In serial-like episodes, the story follows Bod's progress as he grows from baby to teen, learning life's lessons amid a cadre of the long-dead, ghouls, witches, intermittent human interlopers. A pallid, nocturnal guardian named Silas ensures that Bod receives food, books, and anything else he might need from the human world. Whenever the boy strays from his usual play among the headstones, he finds new dangers, learns his limitations and strengths, and acquires the skills he needs to survive within the confines of the graveyard and in wider world beyond. (ages 10 and up) - Heidi Broadhead

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Grade 5

•Somewhere in contemporary Britain, "the man Jack" uses his razor-sharp knife to murder a family, but the youngest, a toddler, slips away. The boy ends up in a graveyard, where the ghostly inhabitants adopt him to keep him safe. Nobody Owens, so named because he "looks like nobody but himself," grows up among a multigenerational cast of characters from different historical periods that includes matronly Mistress Owens; ancient Roman Caius Pompeius; an opinionated young witch; a melodramatic hack poet; and Bod's beloved mentor and guardian, Silas, who is neither living nor dead and has secrets of his own. As he grows up, Bod has a series of adventures, both in and out of the graveyard, and the threat of the man Jack who continues to hunt for him is ever present. Bod's love for his graveyard family and vice versa provide the emotional center, amid suspense, spot-on humor, and delightful scene-setting. The child Bod's behavior is occasionally too precocious to be believed, and a series of puns on the name Jack render the villain a bit less frightening than he should be, though only momentarily. Aside from these small flaws, however, Gaiman has created a rich, surprising, and sometimes disturbing tale of dreams, ghouls, murderers, trickery, and family.

•Megan Honig, New York Public Library

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Everything you expect from Neil. I first heard about Bod in one of the books of short stories Mr. Gaiman wrote years ago, along with his acknowledgement that he was working on a full-length story. When I first got a Kindle this book was the first I purchased, and like all of his stories, I always come back to reading it out of joy. I had forgotten that there was a Hempstock in this, and hope that

some day there is a chance for Bod to meet Lettie Hempstock.

Book came in excellent condition even though it was a very cheap used copy. Looks nearly brand new. I've read it before. It has an exotic, vaguely dark, odd feel to it, and yet it captures your attention and makes you love the characters. At the last scene of the book (SPOILERS) -----\*\*\*\*\*when he leaves the cemetery, I cried my eyes out. (Granted I recently had become a father and a friend had lost their baby so the scene was particularly poignant). I recommend it highly.

The Graveyard Book - Neil Gaiman is my favorite author. Period. I love fantasy and science fiction, but I love Neil's work most of all. His writing is so accessible, filled with humor and imagination. Like all Gaiman stories, it begins with parts that slowly assemble into a working whole, keeping you on edge and turning another page.

My daughter read this for her summer reading project and her reaction was wonderful. I purchased the audible book and she listened to the characters as they came alive. She laughed and thoroughly enjoyed the plot as well as the cast of characters. Excellent choice. I had zero trouble getting her to complete her project this year.

Delightfully enchanting, bittersweet and original. There seems to be a hole in the main plot but it really didn't seem to matter because it wasn't the point of the story, really. A unique story line, great characters, I would love to read a sequel.

Oh My Goth! I Once I Started Reading This, I Could Not Put It Down And Stayed Up Late Into The Wee Hours To Finish It! This Is The Awesome Magical Story Of Bod, The Living Boy Who Was Raised By An Entire Graveyard Of Ghosts. I Have Always Had A Love Of Graveyards And This Book Did Not Disappoint At All! How Could It? It Was Written By The Same Author Who's Magic Gave Us Coraline And Stardust! I Have Already Found The Author, Neil Gaiman, Reading It On U-Tube And Have Texted My Daughter To Suggest This Book For My Grandchildren To Read And Write Listen To Now For Halloween! I Have Both Of The Movies 'Coraline' & 'Stardust' But Now I Know I Need To Go Back And Read Them And Anything Else He Writes!

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For the adult reader, the layered metaphors are brilliant. For a child reader, the story lines propel you along in wonder. Highly recommended for all ages. Also serves as a great bedtime read for adult and child.

Many tales in the Coming of Age genre can easily fall prey to cliches. Gaiman lovingly treats any cliché he chooses to employ with respect and ingenuity. Neil has a unique blend of wonder in his storytelling that always seems to walk the line between heartache and hilarity -- The Graveyard Book is no exception. A perfect read for any occasion.

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