



Time to Smell the Roses

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There's something prickly going on in the town of Thorny End, and as Hermux Tantamoq is about to discover, it's not just the roses. When rose magnate Androse deRosenquil asks him to take on an intriguing missing squirrel case, Hermux can't say no and before he knows it, he's caught up in a mystery involving mutant bees, a rose fragrance rivalry starring cosmetics tycoon Tucka Mertslin, and strange incidents taking place on an uninhabited island with a troubled past.

With the help of his fiancée, aviatrix Linka Perflinger, talented pet ladybug, Terfle, and a rebellious teenage squirrel named Twigg, Hermux must uncover what's really happening on the island, find the missing squirrel and save the day and deRosenquil's roses without getting stung in the process.

Time to Smell the Roses Details

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From Reader Review Time to Smell the Roses for online ebook

Anne Hamilton says

Time to Smell the Roses has all the quirkiness of the watchmaker mouse's previous adventure. Hermux and Linka are planning their wedding but, as usual, Hermux is accidentally caught up in solving a mystery.

Beauty tycoon, Tucka Mertslin, is as black-hearted and scheming as ever - and this time she's intent on ensuring that her rival, Reezor Bleesom, is ruined before he gets time to celebrate his invention of the perfect perfume.

Tucka enlists the help of Killium Wollar, a borderline psychopath who fortunately for everyone is too lazy most of the time to harm anyone. In league with Tucka, however, it's a different story.

Hermux is caught up in the drama of Tucka's machinations, Killium's vicious practical jokes, a mysterious body washed up on a beach and the missing heir to a fortune of rose bushes.

Richard Legault says

Another (and I believe the last) entry in the Hermux Tantamoq mouse detective series. It was easily as charming as the other three. I felt that the mystery aspects didn't hold together as well as the previous titles. There were two intersecting stories going on, and the headline mystery didn't appear on the main character's radar until the last third of the book.

Linnae says

In the midst of making wedding plans with Linka, Hermux the mouse finds himself once again embroiled in a mystery. This time it has to do with a whole field of dead roses, not to mention an unidentified dead squirrel, a bug taxidermist/coroner, and a hive full of monogrammed killer bees.

Not as much satiric subtext to this one as some of his others, but utterly charming and enjoyable nonetheless.

LB says

I am not sure why my rating of this book is lower than the other books in the series... Perhaps because it's more of the same. Or maybe I've grown tired of the seemingly necessary heterosexual pairings... In a fantasy world of mice and squirrels where sex role stereotypes are refreshingly absent, and almost anything is possible, it would be equally refreshing not to be pounded over the head with the message that the key to happiness for every rodent boy is a rodent girl.

Peyton Forbes says

i found this book super entertaining to read. I was a little confused at points, but once I got the hang of the story, I couldn't stop reading. I love how the two stories came together at the end and made a really good story.

Gregory says

A wonderful story with as much charm as the rest of the series. The original book in the series was one of the first books I really loved and after so many years I'm glad that this book retained a lot of what made the other novels enjoyable, the quirky characters with strange names, the silly and sometimes slightly dangerous scenarios, the way it doesn't take itself too seriously and donuts, lots of donuts! The writing is still cheesy as heck (pun intended because the main character is a mouse) and incredibly predictable, but it's a fun, adventurous story that is worth a read through.

Barb says

I realize these are written for the "young adult" audience. I guess I'm just young at heart because I've read all of the Hermux Tantamoq adventures and loved every one of them. Very fast reads, exciting, funny... fun books!

Taurean Watkins says

It took me too long to read this book, partly because it's been so long since it's original release and there's been no news of a follow up or any other book, and as a writer myself I know books can take such a long time before they're ready to share to the masses, but as a reader first, it can be hard waiting.

My point here is that this was such a stellar follow up to the previous book I had to savor it. This for me was one of those books you hate to see end.

Any reader who thinks animal fantasy is either fluffy "kid's stuff" or overly "adult" will find a refreshing middle ground with this series.

Emily says

The Hermux Tantamoq Adventures is a delightful middle-grade series about a detective/watchmaker named Hermux, his friends and all of his adventures. I read the first three books in this series ages ago and for some reason never read the fourth (and final?) book. I love how well developed all the characters are in this series, and I especially love that each one has their own important part to play in solving the mysteries. The world is rich and imaginative, which makes for a fun read. I'm sad that there aren't any more books planned in the

series. Farewell Hermux!

Ashley says

Michael Hoeye wraps up his fantastical series his fourth installment, *Time to Smell the Roses*. With a wedding to plan, Hermux is already up to his knees in trouble when Androse DeRosenquill, head of the famed DeRosenquill family, urges him to travel to Thorny End, famed for its variety of roses. Androse wastes no time in charging Hermux in finding his estranged son, Plank, in order to save the family business. Likewise, Tucka Mertslin wastes no time in jumping right in as well, sending her minions there in order to cause havoc in the name of greed. Joined by fiancee Linka Perflinger and ladybug Terfle, Hermux will uncover a dastardly plot involving washed-up bodies, gun toting henchmen and killer bees, all leading to the final confrontation that will have you thoroughly satisfied.

The Adventures of Hermux Tantamoq regrettably reaches the curtain fall in Michael Hoeye's final installment to the series. A comical cast of bugs and rodents team up in a story that stays strong to the very end.

Momo says

I'm a big fan of this children's book series featuring watchmaker/detective mouse Hermux Tantamoq, but I read the third volume, "No Time Like Show Time," several years ago, and I was afraid that this fourth book wouldn't charm me in the way that the previous ones had. After reading just the first few pages, I was relieved to find the characters I loved still lovable, including adventuress/aviatrix Linka, Hermux's fiancee, and Terfle, his trusty ladybug pet/companion/assistant, and the character I loved to hate, cosmetics-guru Tucka Mertslin, still wonderfully loathsome. In this installment, Hermux is hired to find the long-missing son of the wealthy patriarch-squirrel of a rose-growing empire. As he goes about his investigation, while he and Linka make plans for their wedding, he finds himself caught up in a dangerous mystery involving a homeless and rebellious young squirrel named Twigg, a stolen corpse, killer bees, a prankster/scientist-turned-ally of Tucka; and Tucka herself and her latest scheme to expand her beauty-industry empire. The story is well plotted and exciting, the writing fine and sure. Although it's been, at the time of this review, nearly nine years since the publication of "Time to Smell the Roses," I hold out hope that there will be more Hermux adventures to come!

Susan says

Watchmaker-detective Hermux Tantamoq (if you haven't read the earlier books--and you should--you won't know he's a mouse) is trying to plan his wedding to his beloved Linka Perflinger, when he's called by the aged rosarian, Androse DeRosenquill. He thinks that he'll be asked to repair the beautiful clock tower that's a feature of Thorny End, but DeRosenquill wants Hermux to find his long-lost heir. It should be enough to say that malicious cosmetic magnate Tucka Mertslin is deeply involved in the puzzle that Hermux and Linka must solve.

Penelope says

I loved it another great book by Michael Hoeye! The story was captivating and i wish he would expand the Hermux Tandamoq adventures little more with more books because i can't believe that it's over....

Josh says

Enjoyable, light reading. Which is just what the doctor ordered when you haven't slept much in the past few days and you constantly get to hold a wonderful new life, which doesn't do much except sleep. The good guys in these books are very charming and nice and the bad guys are very easy to dislike. But that is kind of what makes them merely "cute", rather than great (no deep or interesting commentary on the human condition here). This is a fun little melodrama, which has its place, and is a quite enjoyable one.

Julie lit pour les autres says

Lu en français: L'élixir de rose.

Ah. La fin des aventures d'Hermux (enfin, jusqu'ici). Je suis restée un peu sur ma faim. Il y a quelque chose dans ce roman qui lui enlève un peu de la magie que j'ai observée dans la série, et je me demande si ce n'est pas la traduction argotique qui le rend moins intéressant. Si l'intrigue toujours autour de l'horrible mais tellement drôle Tucka Mertslin, la reine des cosmétiques en mal d'attention, et que le propos est très intéressant à débattre au plan moral avec les jeunes (est-ce que la fin justifie réellement les moyens?), la traduction rend le livre moins plaisant à lire. L'intrigue est finement ciselée, l'imagination de l'auteur complètement débridée, les personnages toujours délicieux de roublardise et de fantaisie (Terfèle, la coccinelle, se découvre une âme d'artiste)... Il manque toutefois à ce livre la neutralité langagière caractéristique du reste de la série.

Tout de même, quelle série réjouissante!
