



Freddy the Detective

Walter R. Brooks , Kurt Wiese (Illustrator)

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Freddy the pig, stimulated by reading Sherlock Holmes, sets up in a business as a detective.

Freddy the Detective Details

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From Reader Review Freddy the Detective for online ebook

Joyce M. Tice says

I know I should be embarrassed that at my age I am reading Freddy the Pig. But, I enjoyed them so much when I was a kid and got interested again when I wanted my grandchildren to read them.

I thoroughly enjoyed this book and the reunion with some of the friends of my childhood. What fun! Am starting another one right now!!! It's going to be hard to relinquish these books to my grandchildren. I guess I'll have to get them their own copies.

Bookworm says

Freddy books were and are a great favorite with me; they bring back fond memories, while still retaining freshness and humor, and I will still be reading them when I'm ninety. :)

Angie Thompson says

Things I didn't realize when starting this book--

- 1) I was coming in in the middle of the series. Not a huge deal, but there were a number of references to things that had happened before that definitely let me know I was late to the party.
- 2) That we're not looking at animals operating independently from the human world--or even in a "normal animal" capacity alongside it. Even though the animals don't talk to the humans, there's quite a bit of unusual interaction going on. The animals (including pigs, rabbits, etc.) have free run of the house, help with kitchen and garden chores, etc. The humans are quite proud of their unusual animals--in fact, after Freddy sets up his detective agency, the sheriff comes out to consult with him on a case! So, some interesting suspension of disbelief, but rather funny when I got over the initial shock. :) Also, again, I'm coming in partway through, so I've missed any explanations/building up to this state of events that happened in the first two books.

Even with all that, though, I did enjoy this book. The unexpected consequences of Freddy's detective work--from inspiring copycats to having to create a justice system from scratch to an unusual crime wave--felt realistic and funny at the same time. Also, what started out seeming like a loose collection of different episodes and cases wrapped together nicely in the climax at the end. :)

3.5 stars

Content--some name calling and insults, including "stupid", etc.; several uses of "gosh"; (view spoiler)

Christina says

My son (5) and I listened to the audio version of this whilst driving around town for the past couple of weeks. The book itself was very fun, set up as a series of vignettes, but bound together by one over-arching storyline. The reading of the book was quite delightful, and we may just have to look into more of the Freddy books. As soon as we finished listening to it (all four cassettes!), my son asked for it again. We're now on our second time.

Timothy Power says

My first literary crush was on Freddy the Pig. He loves to sing and write poetry and while away the day in sweet, sweet contemplation of the finer points in life. But when a challenge arises, he always rises to the occasion with quick-thinking, resourcefulness, and a respect for his fellow creatures.

Cheryl says

Very funny. Love all the satire, and don't think it goes over children's heads, as I'm sure this series (what few books that I could find) was a primer for me to appreciate Animal Farm. I love how there are no super-villains... lots of bad guys, but they all have bits of 'humanity' in their characters. And the adventure is interesting, too, including the dramatic courtroom scene.

I really wish these were still read, and therefore still available... try them with your child and let me know if there's a chance that we could revive interest in them!

Kyle Foley says

This book (and the others in this epic saga of pigness) are most likely the best books ever, they are not as dark as other great literary classics, but, I think everyone should read them as they are fabulous.

Kailey (BooksforMKs) says

A cute, old-fashioned children's story about Freddy, an intelligent pig, who reads about Sherlock Holmes and decides to become a detective. All the farmyard animals bring their little problems to Freddy, and he does some sleuthing to solve their mysteries. A little rabbit goes missing, someone steals a toy train, and a cat is wrongfully accused of murdering a crow, but Freddy is up to the task, looking for clues, and tracking down heartless criminals.

I enjoyed the charming old style of writing, and the simple story lines. The characters are sweet and funny, and they kept my interest. I liked how Freddy makes mistakes at first. He is not a very good detective to begin with, but he learns quickly and does a better job each time he tries.

Although this is the third book of a series, you don't have to read the series in order to be able to understand the story.

E.L. says

I enjoy all the Freddy books, but this one is unquestionably my favorite. From Freddy disguising himself to catch the robbers, to the clever way he, Mrs Wiggins, and Jinx plot to trap the rats, to the trial of Jinx for murder, it's a thoroughly enjoyable romp from start to finish. Never were there such animals as the ones on the Bean farm, and Freddy is the cream of the crop!

Shadowdenizen says

It may still be the rose-colored glasses...

But I'm still digging this re-read of one of my favorite series from my childhood.

It's interesting to see the subtle progression of the characters and the world they interact with.

Donna Jo Atwood says

Freddy the Pig has been reading Sherlock Holmes and knows that he, too, can apply his brain to solving mysteries. beginning with Farmer Bean's son's loss of a toy train Freddy becomes very efficient in the apprehension of criminals. In the end he not only solves the case of the murdered crow, but successfully acts as defense attorney for the falsely accused Jinx the cat. How often did Sherlock do that?

Used for task 30.2

Martha says

I loved this book and plan to read the whole series. Nicholas Kristof, from the NY Times, had an article on his favorite children's books, so I read it and loved it. Clever, sweet, great black and white drawings that you used to see in books like Wind in the Willows.

Beth says

Actually, I read The Freddy Anniversary Collection, three books in one: Freddy Goes to Florida; Freddy Goes to the North Pole, and Freddy the Detective. The three are the first of a series written between 1927 and 1958 about Freddy the Pig. With his farm animal companions, Freddy has various adventures all delightfully silly but not slapstick. This series was a favorite of one of my brothers. For me, a good old trot down memory lane.

Elizabeth S says

I love the whole Freddy series, but this has got to be my favorite. I love a main character who is clever, but still has lovable faults.

Mandolin says

Reading this book hot on the tail of Tolstoy and the Purple Chair was just a confirmation of the magical pleasure that can be found in books. One minute, I can be sitting with Nina Sankovitch in her smelly purple chair, thinking deep thoughts about the meaning of life and the things that give it substance, and the next I can be snooping around Mr. Bean's farmyard with Freddy, Jinx the Cat and Mrs. Wiggins the cow, taking down Simon and his evil gang of rats and foiling burglars that knit their own mufflers! I may never have kids of my own to share these stories with, as my dad shared them with me, but I'll certainly be reading them to my nephews and nieces, as soon as they come along! Walter Brooks was a master of children's fiction and the Freddy books could certainly be called great literature, as I came to define it based on Sankovitch's book, for they hold gems of truth about life and humanity, hidden beneath humor, adorable characters and entertaining plots!
