



McSorely's Evil Tea

Helen Ryan

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Sky Swift lives happily in a cosy home with her mother. She enjoys the simpler things in life like drinking tea, munching biscuits, oh and sniffing everything. One day evil pays a visit.

Her world has changed forever. Stalked by an evil tea bag and chased by an evil tea company that will stop at nothing to get her.

They want her for their wicked plan.

Sky is in trouble. She needs help.

But who can she turn to?

McSorely's Evil Tea Details

Date : Published May 6th 2015 by Createspace Independent Publishing Platform

ISBN : 9781511774147

Author : Helen Ryan

Format : Paperback 158 pages

Genre : Humor, Adventure

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From Reader Review McSorely's Evil Tea for online ebook

Lizzy Baldwin says

There's a lot to this book and I know as a younger reader I would have adored this not that I didn't at the ripe old age of twenty-one. I thought the plot was wonderfully devised, just enough silly bits and bobs but a real understanding of how to construct a story whilst keeping it fun and exciting. I thought Sky was wonderfully written; she's a little quiet and timid but as the story continues she develops a much more gutsy attitude. Rex is a little stuck-up and acts a lot older than his years but his sweet nature and his pain for the loss of his family is written brilliantly. Favourite character hands down: Terminate, the friendly gorilla who can't stop kissing people. I know that would definitely have kept me in fits of giggles.

I thought the plot moved with pace and dexterity. There's a lot to fit in and there is a switching of time zones (throughout the book we get little snippets as to how and why all of this started.) The writing has just enough description to help paint a picture of the landscape without getting bogged down. I think however what I liked best was the little details that the author has so cleverly woven in; the tea-bags being able to talk, the tree house (their secret-hideaway,) the way the tea Master turns Mister Snickering's face inside out to punish him and the way they both talk, oh and the fact that Mister Snickering's car drives itself so that he can go for a nap on the way; that sounds, well, brilliant. I don't want to spoil this because it all works together so well, but trust me it's just enough silly to be entertaining but not to ludicrous. Although we are talking about evil talking tea-bags.

Overall I thoroughly enjoyed this book, it's witty, silly, but well thought-through and brilliantly written. Thumbs-up.

I received this book from the author in exchange for an honest review

Nick Rossi says

The power and strength of a good author can be defined by their proclivity to be imaginative, creative, and subversive. In her sharply witty McSorely's Evil Tea, Helen Ryan demonstrates her natural ability to write a children's story rife with unique characters and plot points, all the while building a foundation of wit for the adult readers who happen to come across this delightful book.

The villain here is a tea bag and the protagonist a girl named Sky. Sort of sounds like a Bob Dylan lyric but is not nearly as trite as the musician. The tea bag wants Sky to drink his heinous tea, and is very sore when he does not get drunk right away. So, because he's a tea bag on a mission, he burns through Mr. Snickering's pocket to accomplish his objective.

Ryan takes the reader on a hilarious voyage to a land where tea, as their own form of life, use children to work in an awful factory that manufactures evil tea to corrupt the entire world, one cup at a time. Sounds really dark, I know, but Ryan brings light and humor to a story where the goal of saving the world fits in with the protagonists adventure of personal growth and development.

A fun, short read with a lot of heart, McSorely's Evil Tea should be a welcome addition to any children's library.

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Anna says

I am nine years old and I think this book was really funny and I like to drink tea way more than hot chocolate and I thought that the idea of an EVIL tea bag was really innovative and SOOOOOO cool! The tea bag was really funny and when me and my little brother play together with toys we pretend that the bad toys think that peaceful, nice and good stuff is really bad, just like the tea bag in this story. Like when the tea bag thought, newborn kittens and sunny days at the beach and lavender smelling pockets were really hateful things.

In the story, Sky is an 8 year old girl and her mum gets scratched by a weird man called Mr Snickering and gets poisoned. Sky's mom is in hospital and Mr Snickering pretends to be Sky's father and when Mr Snickering falls asleep, Sky runs to her house and the evil teabag tries to get Sky! BUT Sky isn't affected. So Sky tries to look for a cure for her mom and researches McSorely's tea company, which is the tea company that Mr Snickering works at. The story is super interesting and I so don't want to spoil it for anyone by saying too much more about it. You really need to read it to see how awesome the book is and every time I drink tea now I remember this book, its sooo funny and it hasn't put me off drinking tea. Unless its my mom's gross Twinings lemon and ginger tea... ugh! (=^.^=)~

Doctordavid says

I feel certain there must be a deep significance to the fact that the world of children's book is pushing back far more boundaries than adult ones.

With the onset of Young Adult books (YA) there is too far more scope to deal within children's literature more controversial topics than ever before.

The history of "books for children" is also a very strange and extraordinary one since so many of them have been hijacked by adult readers (and I admit to being one of them)

Early Christian Tract books from Victorian times were intended to teach morality and selflessness that is until E. Nesbit invented the rebel child and there has been no looking back. When it is considered that in my childhood Dickens were seen as children's literature as were the extraordinary surreal novels of Lewis Carroll, Jonathan swift and even Wilkie Collins

In more recent times both J.R.R. Tolkien and J.K. Rowling have blasted their way onto the library shelves in the junior fiction section only to be usurped by those young readers' parents !!

And so to the wickedly entertaining Helen Ryan who, in her children's book "McSorely's Evil Tea", has managed to subvert that cosy pastimes of tea drinking into a riot of surreal adventure and dark deeds and doings in the McSorely tea factory under the evil eye (my what a baddie he is) of Mister Snickering (such a malevolent word as used here)

Sky Swift is a heroine of our age and she will certainly appeal to many a young reader, as will her unconventional household. I wonder if this reflects Helen Ryan's own?! And were her own children the first recipients of this classically bewildering gem...

I spent many a jolly hour in the recent sunshine reading the exploits of the biscuit munching Sky, the ubiquitous and menacing tea bag, Rex named after the pet lion, and of course the creepy Mr Snickering.

I will never desist from reading those books intended for a young audience as they truly do seem to get all the best stories !!

Lenita Sheridan says

Will Keep You Laughing

This book is written with a wonderful sense of humor. The villains are all funny. The best are poor excuses for villains, like Mr. Snickering who just isn't evil enough. The book has a good plot and an exciting ending. The epilogue was humorous as well. Definitely well worth the read.

Chase MacMillan says

Review

I like how the characters are vividly described. I think that this plot is one of the best and I could picture everything in my mind. Read it now

Becky says

Started very strong, then there was a bit of a shift about halfway through the book. It is my feeling that the protagonist should have been the hero of the story rather than having to get rescued and having things worked out for her.

I think the demise of the evil tea bag was where my interest started to fade. Yes, the book is called ..."Evil Tea", not "...Evil Tea BAG". The tea itself had not character like the teabag was. I twas just a tool.

This should have been a simple, fun story (in spite of the evil), but I think too many characters vying for attention grew dull. Particularly the tree house kids. They were poorly developed, as was the Mom.

Ellen says

I was expecting something funny-ish and perhaps charming, but instead I was left with a book that felt rather like a teen was making their first foray into fiction writing. I liked the concept of an evil teabag, but in the end I was left disappointed. What can I say, the whole thing left me wanting...
