



## Hilda and the Black Hound

*Luke Pearson*

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## **Hilda and the Black Hound** Luke Pearson

*Hilda and the Black Hound* is the fourth installment in the award-winning Hildafolk series.

Hilda is sat in her tent, dwarfed by volumes of the *Greater Fjords Wildlife Chronicles* with a flashlight and her restless companion Twig, but Hilda's not in the fjords and it isn't raining. Hilda's pitched a tent in her room and it's been days since she's been out.

In Hilda's new adventure, she meets the Nisse: a mischievous but charismatic bunch of misfits who occupy a world beside—but also somehow within—our own, and where the rules of physics don't quite match up. Meanwhile, on the streets of Trolberg, a dark specter looms...

**Luke Pearson** is one of the leading talents of the international comics scene. He was the winner of the Young People's Comic category at the British Comic Award (2012) and was shortlisted in the Eisner Award's Best Publication for Kids and Best Writer/Artist categories (2013).

## **Hilda and the Black Hound Details**

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Author : Luke Pearson

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## **From Reader Review Hilda and the Black Hound for online ebook**

### **David Schaafsma says**

Graphic novel for kids, tweens. I think I've read three of the four he's done so far and this would seem to be the best. Fantasy world with a strong girl character, blue-haired Hilda whose mother wants her to get out and socialize more so she gets her to join the Sparrow Scouts, she encounters problems with the Nisse and a Black Hound, finds them connected. . .

This is a world like Moomin, Miyazaki, but with a touch of Coraline. If you liked. . . Faith Hicks, Ben Hatke's Zita, Mark Crilley's Akiko. . . all great stuff for kids with strong girl characters that have been coming out, you will like this. And since my 7 year old girl is now a Brownie/Girl Scout, well, here we are.

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### **Liam Walsh says**

I love all the Hildafolk books, but this one's a cut above the rest. Really lovely.

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### **Raina says**

The magic of this series is Hilda interacting with unique nonhuman creatures. So I get impatient when there is much of anything else in these stories. The whole scouting thing, I could care less about. Even the stuff with her mom, I've read it in a million Realistic Juvenile Fiction stories. MOAR CREATURES PLZ.

Once you get to the core of this story (the nisse), I liked it better. I kinda love the concept of the hidden room in your house, even if it does feel marginally stolen from Un Lun Dun or Neverwhere. And I loves me a giant dog, oh I do.

I also kinda love it when homework feels useful.

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### **Kaethe says**

On the purely conventional level, Hilda has joined scouts and she's feeling competitive to win badges, because her mother earned a lot of badges when she was a scout. Meanwhile, the town is terrorized by a menacing black hound. And, meanwhile again, Hilda is trying to help out a nisse who is homeless and looks like a soot sprite on legs.

It all comes together. Hilda is up there among my favorite blue-haired heroines, Coraline and Kazou. Also, I really like her dog and I love her mother, who manages to be pretty calm about all this.

Library copy.

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### **Dale Johnson says**

All of Pearson's Hilda books are great fun. Comparing them is an exercise in fine gradations. This one I would put at #3 after Hildafolk (Hilda and the Troll) and then Bird Parade. This one has by far the most action, but struck me less from the profundity of Hildafolk and Hilda praising the snugness of her tent in the rain or the irony of the woodman's house, and of less symbolism than the Bird in Bird Parade. I put it above Midnight Giant, just because there is so much more story here.

Reading this to small children may frighten them (Hildafolk gave my 4-yearold granddaughter nightmares and this would be much worse). Anyone age 6 or older should be able to deal. But, as with the other books, adults will enjoy remembering being kids of Hilda's age.

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### **Lauren says**

I am loving the Hilda series. The way she interacts with all species reminds me of myself as a child. (I was...okay, still am...the one talking to frogs, turtles, and all other sorts of critters.)

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### **Lara says**

Such a little thing, but I think my favorite part in this whole book is a scene where Hilda and her mother are walking home from the grocery store and Hilda's mother has a baguette sticking out of the bag, and at one point Hilda just reaches up and bites the end off of it while walking and her mother doesn't seem to notice or care. Ha!

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### **Fernanda Russo says**

En este nuevo tomo, Hilda comenzará a ser parte de un grupo de niños exploradores, sin embargo, las criaturas que se hacen llamar Nisse y el perro que atormenta al pueblo, harán que su labor de girl scout no sea tan fácil. Pues no sólo conforme a tener que conseguir al menos una insignia, debe encontrarle un hogar a Tontu y cuidarse de no ser comida por el peligroso perro negro.

Amo a Hilda, me encanta su inocencia, sus ganas de querer ayudar a alguien sin esperar nada a cambio. Realmente creo que es el personaje con el corazón más puro que he leído. Pero sobre todo, adoro el amor que muestra hacia los animales y criaturas expuestas en todos los anteriores libros, efectivamente retrata lo encantadores y sensibles que son los niños con ellos. Y por supuesto, ese amor lo comparto yo también. <3

Estos cómics me resultan arrebatadores, se están adueñando de mi corazón por completo. No sé que haré cuando los acabe. :(

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### **Kendra says**

Okay this one is my new favourite one

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### **Melissa says**

These books are the greatest! They are G's favorites. We read them first when he was about three & he liked them, but I just got them all again & now he is IN LOVE. All day long he says, "Did you know . . ." something something about trolls or the wood man or Twig or those floating head guys who are always migrating whose name I've forgotten (**Edit:** The woffs!) or any of the other delightful mythology of this series. This is the clear favorite for both of us and I'm reviewing it just because he's been reading it with/to me many times in the past week, and oh yeah, my kiddo can read now!

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### **Jasmine says**

Hilda has moved to the city, and joins a scout group, and finds the city is just as full of mystery and magic as the country, just a different sort.

This series is so heartfelt? This book is all about finding a home and family, through the medium of magical house spirits and a giant black hound that is menacing the town, and I kinda think about it and feel my heart grow three sizes.

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### **Kailey (BooksforMKs) says**

Hilda befriends a house spirit and together they flee from the black hound who is terrorizing the city.

Another great book in the Hilda series! I am so in love with all these wonderful books. Every plot is so different and imaginative. Hilda continues to grow as a character, and I love her story!

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### **Maggie Gordon says**

Hilda and the Block Hound is my favourite book in the series thus far, and this, of course, has nothing to do with the adorable dog in its pages. Nooo... not at all!

In this volume, there's a menacing black hound wandering the city, and the residents are getting concerned. Not Hilda though, as she's too busy being a scout and learning new things about camping! One of her tasks is to do a good deed a day, and she tries to help a house spirit who was kicked out of his abode. Her attempts rapidly snowball into quite a mess that intersects with the black hound! It's an exciting, magical, and fun romp in Hilda's strange, but marvellous world! Kids get some good lessons about effort about working hard

and making friends, and readers get to see the world built up even more!

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### **Jenna says**

Very cute and whimsical with a drawing style and sense of humor that matched. A refreshing change from some of the books that I've been reading lately. I especially liked how aspects of the paranormal and/or fantastical were incorporated into Hilda's world. Well done and think this one would be a good read for all ages.

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### **Hilary says**

This is such a lovely book! I love the way other lives and subcultures are shown, this author must have been inspired by the moomins. Hilda lives with her mum in a flat and has just joined the sparrows (scouts) she is going to her first camp but a giant dog has been sighted. Meanwhile back at home the Nisses (house spirits) that live in all those unused spaces in peoples homes are being thrown out due to bad behaviour that the Nisses claim was not their fault. Hilda feels under pressure to live up to her mum's achievements and gain her first scout badge at the same time as solving the mystery of the displaced Nisses and the human eating giant hound. The end is tied up beautifully - I see, that's why the hound sniffed Hilda!

I have a daughter that despite being super clever, struggles to read fiction, she raced through this and has asked for the other books for Christmas. Highly recommended.

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