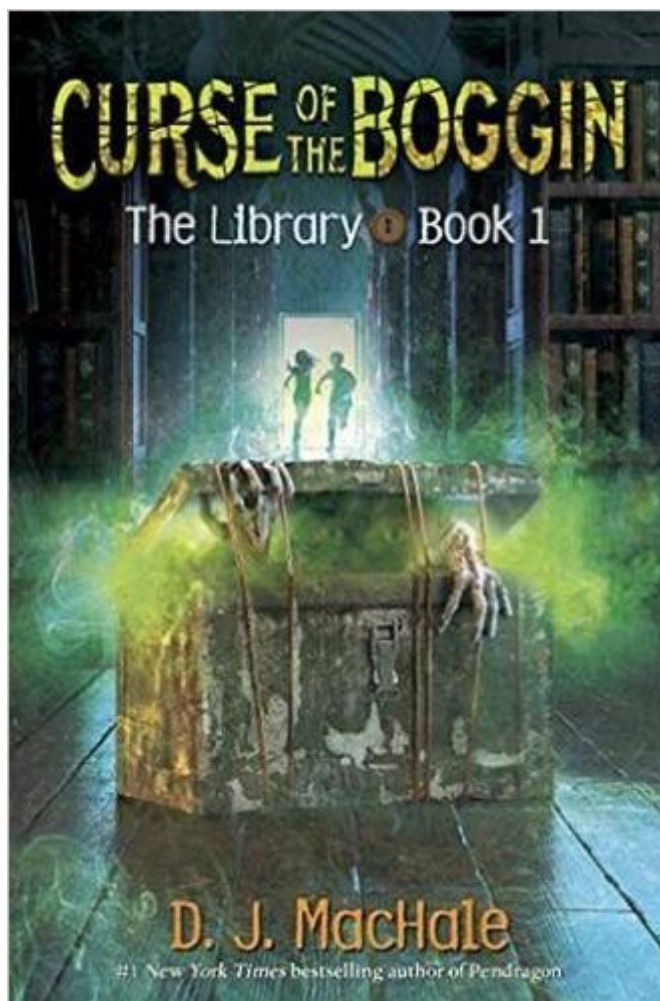


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Curse Of The Boggin (The Library Book 1)



Synopsis

Are you not sure anyone does suspense quite like D. J. MacHale? James Dashner, New York Times bestselling author of the Maze Runner series. Leave the lights on for this spooky thriller from D. J. MacHale, author of the #1 New York Times bestseller Pendragon! Enter the Library, where no one knows how the stories end . . . and finding out will be terrifying. There's a place beyond this world, beyond the land of the living, where ghosts go to write their unfinished stories—stories that ended too soon. It's a place for unexplained phenomena: mysteries that have never been solved, spirits that have never been laid to rest. And there's only one way in or out. It's called the Library, and you can get there with a special key. But beware! Don't start a story you can't finish. Because in this library, the stories you can't finish just might finish you.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0580 (What's this?)

Series: The Library (Book 1)

Hardcover: 256 pages

Publisher: Random House Books for Young Readers (September 6, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1101932538

ISBN-13: 978-1101932537

Product Dimensions: 5.8 x 0.9 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars. See all reviews (19 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #21,615 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #42 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Books & Libraries #172 in Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Spine-Chilling Horror #215 in Books > Children's Books > Mysteries & Detectives

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Okay, so I am super duper hard to impress. Add about 1000 more dupers to that when it comes to middle grade novels. Nothing against middle grade, but it's just not one of my favorite genres. In fact, the only middle grade novels that tend to get 3 stars or higher tend to be contemporary middle grade. When it comes to fantasy middle grade, I've been burned more times than not. I just don't

find too many of them impressive. But Curse of the Boggin? That impressed the heck out of this grown adult (in age, at least. I admit, I'm not so great at adulting quite yet). The great thing about Curse of the Boggin is that it draws you right in immediately. When I picked it up, I was thinking "Eh..." and then I read the first page...and then 3 hours later, I had finished the book. Because Curse of the Boggin just doesn't start out engaging, but keeps you engaged the entire way through. There's just nothing that I found nitpick-worthy in Curse of the Boggin. I mean, it's touted as scary and I wasn't scared, but again, grown adult here! I don't get scared often. I do think that children will find the Boggin creepy, while adults will find her annoying and want to punch her (or maybe that's just me). And the library! Oh, the library! It was so captivating. I want to know more about all the unfinished books and all the finished books, basically ALL the books. I want more than little excerpts. I want entire side books written about all of these side stories. There's just so much potential for awesomeness in it. But in Curse of the Boggin, I loved nothing more than the three young characters. I loved Marcus. He was cheeky, bold, and had me chuckling time and time again. I also really loved Lu because of her daring and fiery attitude. And Theo and his logic also captivated me.

Where do ghosts go to read? A liBOOary! Especially The Library in author D.J. MacHale's book. It's a repository of all the finished and unfinished ghost stories and mysteries in life--missing persons, for example. MacHale has a word for these unexplained phenomena: "disruptions". It sounds both scientific and spooky at the same time. MacHale has a knack for having a bit of fun with the paranormal genre while creating an eerie atmosphere, and as a TV show creator, he also employs wry observations about current kid fare. His hero, Marcus O'Mara, is your average Caucasian kid. His best friends, Annabella Lu and Theo McLean (whose last name sounds close enough to MacHale's that you suspect the likable Theo is an author surrogate) are Chinese-American and Black. As Marcus observes, "we looked like the cast of a kids' show trying to cover all its ethnic bases. We could hit for the cycle if we had a Hispanic friend. Or maybe a Tongan." That kind of wry humor echoes the modern sensibilities while keeping the scary stuff entirely believable. The titular Boggin, who is one sweet old lady you don't want to mess with, causes considerable damage and terror while stalking Marcus, who is the unlikely inheritor of the Paradox Key to The Library, a mystical place overseen by Everett, a librarian with an attitude. Marcus is in danger because of one Michael Swenor, whose untimely death is connected with the key...I liked that the book begins with an inciting incident from one of the unfinished books in the library, as if Everett were reading one of the books before observing Marcus's adventure (the book is told from Marcus's point of view).

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