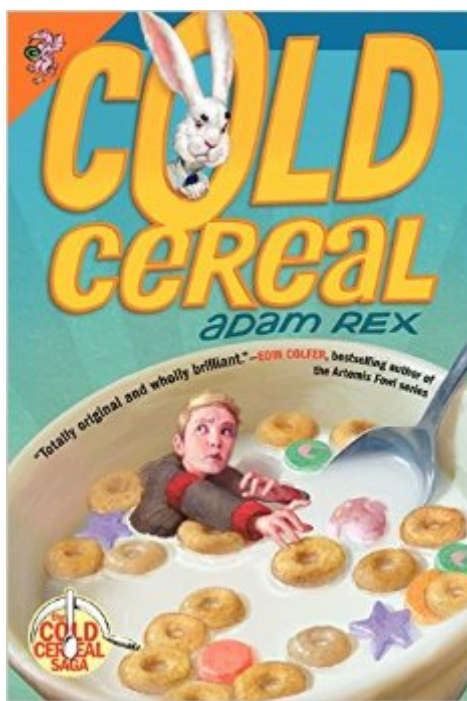


The book was found

Cold Cereal (Cold Cereal Saga)



Synopsis

From author Adam Rex comes the first book in the Cold Cereal Saga—a hilarious, clever, and action-packed adventure series with an educational hook. Scottish Play Doe—aka Scott—is used to being a little different. Sometimes he hallucinates things no one else can see. But then one of these hallucinations tries to steal Scott's backpack, and he comes face-to-face with an honest-to-goodness leprechaun named Mick who's on the run from, of all things, the Goodco Cereal Company. With the help of his friends Erno and Emily, Scott and Mick uncover Goodco's sinister plans—and take the first steps in saving the world from the evil cereal company. Like the Artemis Fowl Series and the Percy Jackson and the Olympians Series, the Cold Cereal Saga takes elements of familiar mythology—in this case, Arthurian legend and Irish folklore—and reimagines it in the modern world with a cast of relatable characters and myriad magical beings. The story is told from multiple points of view, and there are dozens of illustrations—including "commercial breaks"—and stories within the story. Supports the Common Core State Standards

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 770 (What's this?)

Series: Cold Cereal Saga (Book 1)

Paperback: 448 pages

Publisher: Balzer + Bray (January 8, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0062060031

ISBN-13: 978-0062060037

Product Dimensions: 1 x 5.2 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars— See all reviews— (56 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #416,125 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #82 in— Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Arthurian #7906 in— Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy & Magic #9375 in— Books > Children's Books > Humor

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

I got this for my 8 year old and read it first to see if I think it would be appropriate for him and if he'd like it. My verdict is that a lot of the content would be "over his head", but that he'd appreciate the

characters. There is no "bad language", there are two allusions to cuss words but none are spoken. There is some violence there are references to "untimely" deaths, there are some instances where people get guns pointed at them and/or shot at (no one ever gets shot though), and there are some other assorted scary parts but no one gets seriously hurt. There is a part about how one character's mom has an endless parade of "dad's" coming in and out of their lives and I found that part unnecessary and it displeased me greatly. If you want to have a single parent that is one thing, but don't have her be a revolving door! My own feelings on the book were that I personally enjoyed reading it, and at just over 400 pages I was able to do it in an evening and part of the next morning. The story gets moving very quickly out of the gate - important for young readers. It combines every day situations (school interactions for instance) with very whimsical characters and I think that will hold the interest of most young readers. There are a lot of funny lines thrown in for good measure that will appeal to a wide age range. For instance there is a dialogue between two main characters discussing the lax nature of their schools' attitude toward education because February they celebrated "Slacks History Month" which they theorize was due to a typo. This being said, my 8 year old did not get the joke until I explained it to him. So I think some of the humor might be lost on the younger readers.

This book was amazingly hilarious. I picked it up because it was cheap and I keep looking for things that would appeal to my daughter, and I trusted Adam Rex because we all love the *Frankenstein Makes a Sandwich* books so much (they're really excellent). *Cold Cereal* is a romp in the vein of *The Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*, or *The Westing Game*. A trio of kids and some supporting quasi-adults work together to take down a sinister company with shadowy motivations. I am sort of enjoying the shift from sinister governments to sinister corporations. Each of the characters had strengths and weaknesses -- I enjoyed that they were related to the character design as a whole -- the super-smart kid was also a worrier and had agoraphobia. The less-smart kid was brave and observant. One kid's ability to see magical beings was linked to migraines. This may seem like a weird connection, but *Cold Cereal* is like the bubbly mid-grade version of *Elizabeth Bear's Blood and Iron*. The very rough outline of the plot, the enormous breadth of mythical creatures, the cleverness in wordplay, the trickster nature of the fae. Just me? Well, I have to imagine the overlap of people who have read both is smallish. Sample bon mots: "Or he could just sit down next to the girl nobody liked and take his cooties like a man. He sat down next to the girl." This one made my fourth grader laugh and laugh: It so happened that they were serving pizza, or more accurately a kind of impersonation of it, as though the whole concept of pizza had been rather

poorly explained to the cafeteria workers by people who'd only read about it in books and didn't really like children much.

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