



Grimelda: The Very Messy Witch

Diana Murray , Heather Ross (Illustrations)

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Grimelda's house may not be tidy, but it's cozy, and that's just the way she likes it. She also likes pickle pie. There's only one problem—she can't find the main ingredient in her messy house! Readers who enjoyed Norman Bridwell's classic *The Witch Next Door* will love this funny, charming story about the everyday life of a witch.

With a repeating refrain and lively, rhyming text, *Grimelda: The Very Messy Witch* is perfect for reading aloud with a child at Halloween as well as all year round, or for an emerging reader to enjoy on their own. The vibrant illustrations by *Crafty Chloe* illustrator Heather Ross provide plenty of fun things for readers to discover on repeated reads.

Grimelda: The Very Messy Witch Details

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Author : Diana Murray , Heather Ross (Illustrations)

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From Reader Review Grimelda: The Very Messy Witch for online ebook

Diane says

“Messed is best, I always say. That’s the proper witch’s way.”

Grimelda doesn’t mind a messy house, but sometimes it is awfully hard to find things ... especially that *pickle root*. So, after searching high and low, she realizes she has no choice but to clean so that she can find what she needs.

Lori Richmond says

I was fortunate to receive an early F&G of GRIMELDA: THE VERY MESSY WITCH. I read it with my sons, age 9 and 6, at bedtime. They do not give compliments freely, but they loved this book! My 9 year old laughed out loud at Grimelda's messy home (probably bc he can relate to it, as it looks exactly like his bedroom) and both kids loved the little twist at the end. The joke about her hair was especially a favorite. The rhyme was fun, catchy, and easy to read, and I love how the artist gave a "messy" look to the artwork, which perfectly complimented the text. Grimelda is a great read aloud for kids who don't always love to put their things away, and the parents/teachers who beg them to!

Sara says

I feel like if I was a kid and a witch then I totally could be Grimelda. I am a red headed mess. I am always looking for something that I am missing and the same is true of Grimelda. She can't find an ingredient she needs to make one of her potions and so she is forced to clean her room and she finds all sorts of crazy things. A fun and very relatable story.

Samantha says

Grimelda is a messy witch who loves her home as it is. However, messiness sometimes makes it hard to find things, like the pickle root she needs for a pickle pie. Armed with rhymes and a good eye, Grimelda does her best to sort through her mess.

What I Loved:

The rhymes in GRIMELDA: THE VERY MESSY WITCH are adorable and are sure to delight young readers. While pictures books involving witches are usually favored for Halloween, this cute story focuses on one simple day for a witch, making it fun for any time of the year.

With so much detail in the illustrations, there's plenty of unique items to pick out and watch for. However, the animals in the background, ranging from bats to cats and more, are adorable and add extra hilarity. We

also see a plethora of witchy ingredients as Grimeleda searches for the pickle root, which create the perfect supernatural tone.

What Left Me Wanting More:

While there is much to enjoy in this picture book, Grimelda's facial expressions are often awkward and stand out from the rest of the illustrations. This isn't the case every time, but enough to be a distraction.

Final Verdict:

Though there are lacking elements to the story, GRIMELDA: THE VERY MESSY WITCH is ultimately an adorable story about finding your own way of living that makes you happy.

Originally posted at YABC: <http://www.yabookscentral.com/kidsfic...>

Joanie says

Grimelda is a VERY messy witch and she's absolutely adorable!

This book is perfect for your own messy little one and is sure to elicit giggles and a tidy up frenzy the next time one is in need of some pickle root.

The artwork is everything a child will adore as you read the easy verse together.

Devyn says

I received this book from Goodreads.

Cuteness alert!

Grimelda: The very Messy Witch will steal your heart on the spooky, dark nights of October.

*Grimelda's house was black with grim
and stacked with jars of mold and slime,
and ogre's breath. and spotted snails and oozing goo in rusty pails.*

Grimelda is a witch after my own heart. We share similar taste in cleanliness.

*"Messed is best,
I always say.
That's the proper witch's way."*

And like a proper young witch, her house is a mess with odds and ends, a swamp outside, and a spooky

forest surrounding it. The attention to detail is stunning. Look closely and you might spy the strangest things hidden in the artwork.

Unfortunately, when things are a mess it is hard to keep up with where every little thing is.

"But where'd I put that pickle root?"

Pickle root is a important ingredient for pickle pie. The problem is...Grimelda can't find the jar of pickle root because of all of that mess! So, she does something unthinkable of a witch.... She picks up her broom and uses it for something other than flying. She CLEANS. Can you imagine?

But desperate times call for desperate measures.

Follow spunky Grimelda around her house as she uncovers things lost for years, and let this sweet little book transport you to another place far away from pesky mops, dust rags, and cleaners.

Beth (YA Books Central) says

*"Messed is best, I always say.
That's the proper witch's way."*

Grimelda: The Very Messy Witch is such a cute and fun Halloween book for kids to read to get in the spirit of Halloween! I love all the bright colors and the cute illustrations.

Grimelda is such a charming and lively young witch who loves to make pickle pie but she also loves to live really messy and when she begins to look for the ingredients to make her special pickle pie, she realizes that she is missing the main ingredient! and this begins her search throughout her messy house to find the pickle root and along the way she finds lots of other items and things that she didn't realize she was missing! So fun!

Grimelda's messy rooms are full of all kinds of spooky items like ogre's breath, creepy party books, scream cheese spread, "rot" sauce, bugs and lots of snails! Grimelda has lots of spooky yet fun items all throughout her house and it was fun to see what all she found as she was cleaning her messy house!

*"Grimelda reached inside her tree.
She found her stinkweed potpourri
and lots of other missing loot,
but where'd she put that pickle root?"*

This book is such a fun and entertaining book to read with your child and parents can look through the book with their child and and enjoy all the fun, cute illustrations in the book. I especially love the kitty cat, Wizzlewarts!!

I definitely recommend this book to any parent who has a child that loves Halloween and enjoys getting into the spirit of the holiday!

Kate says

Writing in rhyme is HARD, but Diana Murray makes it seem easy as (pickle) pie. It doesn't take a spell to relate to Grimelda: "Messed is best, I always say. That's the proper writer's way." Writer?!? No. Witch's. Witch's way. This book is certainly not about me or my desk or my house. . .

I LOVED the humor and the surprises in this book. But more importantly, my boys (8 and 10) loveloveloved this book, too. We hope Grimelda will be flying into a series faster than you can say, "WIZZLEWARTS!"

Darshana Khiani (Flowering Minds) says

A cheery, roll-clicking rhyme of a book that is sure to entertain the child reader while its theme of messiness is sure to please parents.

Grimelda is a happy, go-lucky witch who enjoys her messy house until she can't find the pickle root. So she begins her search of the house and the yard. While successful in finding last year's bathing suit, no luck on the pickle root. She flies to Zelda's store but no luck there either. Then she does what everyone has been waiting for and starts cleaning and finds the pickle root. But don't worry the story doesn't end there on such a predictable note, the twist thrown in is true to Grimelda's character and the accompanying consequence.

Kids will enjoy getting immersed into Grimelda's world – missing pickle root, spell book, scream cheese spread. The illustrator's child-appealing, messy loose art is a perfect match for Grimelda. I loved the richness the art brings to the character's world.

The book definitely has read-aloud and re-readability charms.

Andy Grey Komuro says

Mi nuevo picture book favorito en inglés!!!! A modo de rima súper ingeniosa conoceremos a la adorable Grimelda y sus grandes aventuras de pequeña bruja. Las ilustraciones me encantaron, los trazos combinan perfecto con Grimelda y su entorno desordenado y colorido. Ideal para Halloween o si se quiere leer algo similar a Dr. Seuss.

Julie says

A super fun rhyming book! I'll admit I was nervous while I was first reading it that it was going to turn into a didactic tale about the importance of keeping your room neat, but thankfully (phew!), nope. It's a silly story with playful illustrations that perfectly match the text. But the biggest thing I can say for it (because who really cares about a grownup's opinion of these things?) is that my 5- and 7-year old have been reading this book obsessively. Now, I won't say it's because their room looks a lot like Grimelda's, which it does. I think

they just like seeing what a messy witch might find hiding in her mess. Will I be using this book to try to make them clean their room ("clean your room! maybe you'll find a cat!")? You bet. This book is silly fun and a great readaloud.

Liz Todd says

Adorable!

Kid Lit Reviews says

"Grimelda's house was black with grime and stacked with jars of mold and slime, and ogre's breath, and spotted snails, and oozing goo in rusty pails."

Well, a dirty, grimy house may be this witch's way, but she cannot be too happy when she craves pickle pie and cannot find every ingredient needed. She knows that indescribable ingredient is in her home—somewhere. What is it she cannot find? A special ingredient called "*pickle root*." Yep, pickle root. What else would you need to make pickle pie? Not that it matters, since Grimelda cannot find her pickle root.

I think Diana Murray is one of the best new rhyming authors in kid lit. In a few years, she may well be at the top of a very talented list. As for Grimelda, I think she is a winner. If she were to star in a new picture book or two, it would be a series worth investing in. With Grimelda's adorable attitude, she could teach young children many things (like not losing one's pickle root or spell book).

Originally reviewed at Kid Lit Reviews. To read the complete review, and see interior illustrations, go to: <http://bit.ly/GrimeldaTheVeryMessyWitch>

Calista says

There is a lot I can relate to with Grimelda. I read this to the kids and they did enjoy the book. They also teased me mercilessly and started calling me Grimelda.

Grimelda lives in a messy house where she can't find anything like I live in a messy room where I can only find half the things I need. There is even a priceless moment when Grimelda finds a comb and as she is combing her hair, her spell book falls out of my hair. This made the kids chuckle and my niece asked me if she could comb my hair to see what books I have up there. It was funny, but my hair is not that bad. I am a bit of an absent minded student at the moment, but I comb my hair.

Grimelda is trying to do a spell and she can't find the ingredients anywhere. She ends up having to clean her room. After she finds the item, she then casts a spell to put everything back to a mess and then she can't find something again.

It is a cute story and we had fun reading it and making me the butt of the joke. I guess I deserve it. I'm a little overwhelmed with school right now.

Robin Newman says

Grimelda is a messy witch after my own heart. With all the mess, poor Grimelda can't find her pickle root to make pickle pie. What's a poor messy witch in a pickle supposed to do? Messy and tidy kids of all ages will love the humor in this story. It's messy, witchtastic fun!
