



Unmentionable!

Paul Jennings

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These curious, entertaining stories are sometimes sharp, sometimes creepy, often clever manipulations of the totally bizarre and the real. In "The Velvet Throne", a man becomes locked in a public toilet where the graffiti starts to come true; and "Sloppy Jalopy" finds a young man suddenly turned into a magnet for garbage. Stories to keep young readers laughing, shuddering and reading.

Unmentionable! Details

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Author : Paul Jennings

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From Reader Review Unmentionable! for online ebook

Kasha says

There are nine more short stories in this book, and I was definitely not disappointed with Jennings imagination and creativity! I continue to enjoy these refreshingly different little tales.

Ice Maiden: This was a funny story to me. We've all had a crush before, but this crush is not exactly normal!

Birdman: What a wierd story!! I mean, I loved it, but where does Jennings come up with this stuff?!

Little Squirt: This is a pretty funny story, but every mother will have reservations about her sons reading it. I let you embellish this title of this story with your imagination and you should be able to figure out why. Even so, I'll probably let my son read it, but only because he doesn't have any brothers to test the idea out on.

The Harmonica: This story I probably won't have my son read on his own. If I read it to him it would be easy for me to skip over a few sentences. When the boy is playing music on the harmonica, people listening start to act out the music. So for example, he played kukaburra sits in the old gum tree, and the entire group of people listening start swinging from tree branches and eating bananas. Well, he starts playing a striptease tune and eventually all the people are in their underwear. But like I said, it would be easy to skip over those couple sentences. It's an interesting story other than that.

The Velvet Throne: Ha Ha!! This is another terrific story! Jennings always puts the most unexpected endings!

Cry Baby: I'm not sure I completely understood this story. It starts out with a boy getting in trouble at school for pulling his pants down, sitting on the xerox machine and pressing the copy button. I guess that could be cause for concern... we don't want our children getting any stupid ideas! So this story is not my favorite, but mostly because I felt like it ended too soon. Usually the endings are the crowning piece of the puzzle, but this one was very anticlamactic.

Ex Poser: This title is a bit of an eyebrow raiser, but the story was completely harmles. It was very cute actually, although I don't think it fits the normal target audience. My son would think it was dumb because it was about puppy love. The story is very short and quite clever.

Sloppy Jalopy: This is such a great story!! Once again... I LOVE THE ENDING!!!

Eyes Knows: This story has a pretty sad beginning. A boy is told by his parents that they are getting a divorce and that he must choose which parent he will live with. He goes a little nuts and begins making decisions based on the random eye color of a little toy robot. It's not Jennings best...but other than the tense family situation, there's nothing offensive.

Faylogic says

It's a cool book.

Khush says

Story 1: Ice Maiden

A boy walks past a shop and sees an ice maiden inside Mr.Mantolini. The boy is in love with the ice maiden. His friends make fun of him and one day, when Mr.Mantolini wants to throw the ice maiden out, the boy rescues her and just kisses her. He is also unable to let go of the ice maiden until he jumps into the water and the ice maiden melts.

Tracey says

Very witty and gross but yet again a great read.
Unmentionable? sure
but I'll try to tell you anyway.

The sludge in the tanker was
the stuff of nightmares.
My nightmares as it turned out.

Some things you just can't talk about...
Locked in the loo.
Kissing a cold. cold. kid.
Being a little squirt.
Burning your behind.

Kay says

A cute book with short stories that makes you want more.

Caleb Cherrie says

1. Why I decided to read this book:

I decided to read this book because I am not quite happy about my wide reading because I thought I still had the holidays to do it and really wanted to get to merit if I couldn't make excellence so I decided that it was an easy read and that I would be able to finish it in time before the wide reading had finished

2. Which category on the bingo board this book completes:

You should comment on the category too – why was it interesting (or not)?

The category that this book completes is 'my own choice'. This is good category but not for the purpose that I used it for which was an easy read. I really enjoyed the stories but I found that they were just a little short and would have been better if they were longer but in saying that it was a way better short story book than the

first one that I had read and commented on.

3. Describe a character you found interesting and explain why:

The character I found interesting is not named in this book but he is the main character in the story 'Ice Maiden'. I found him interesting because he was such a hypocrite. He absolutely hated kids with red hair... because in his previous school he was constantly bullied because of it. In the end he falls in love with a girl and out of the colours she has red hair as well.

4. My favourite/most interesting quote from this book (and why):

'The sludge in the tanker was the stuff of nightmares. My nightmares as it turned out'. This is my favourite quote because in this story a boy try's to get a teacher back and needs one earring to do it, the earring he ends up getting is cursed and rubbish becomes attracted to him. he thinks it is the sludge that has caused it and when you find out it is the earrings it is a great surprise and he just figured out how to get the teacher back.

5. Something new I learned from this book, or something that I thought about more deeply about because of this book is:

Would be not to miss use other peoples stuff. this girl gets a harmonica and wants to use it for longer but in the end it just ends up backfiring on her. Not to miss use peoples stuff.

Kingston Primary says

i am an eight year old boy from kingston primary school and i am reviewing unmentionable.

i liked it when in ex poser david kept interrogating sandra with his lie detector and later ended up blushing.

i reccomend this book for ages 7 to old age.

Blue says

Paul Jennings is definitely one of the very few authors who really stuck with me since my reading years in primary school. I remember heading straight to the J section every time we had reading classes. His writing style is just captivating in each short story (and I don't know how he does it in those few pages but your eye balls are just glued until the story is over) and the quirky twists and ending that make you squirm in your seat or laugh are just the cherry on the top. Definitely one of the authors I will make my kids in future read, so they don't get robbed of some awesome childhood experience haha.

Nazhath says

Unmentionable is a collection of rib tickling short stories by Paul Jennings. Jennings has written numerous amounts of books filled with short stories, with Unmentionable being the sixth in these collections.

As well as being hilarious and entertaining, these stories are sharp, quirky, at times creepy, gross and incredibly bizarre, culminating with clever twists and endings.

In “The Velvet Throne”, a man becomes locked in a public toilet where the graffiti starts to come true; and “Sloppy Jalopy” finds a young man suddenly turned into a magnet for garbage.

These stories can be read out during carpet time by the teacher to KS2 children as a treat to make them laugh, cringe and shudder.

The stories are set in Australia, linking in with Geography, giving pupils an understanding and knowledge of Australian culture and the unfamiliar terms that they use; such as “dunny” (outdoor toilet) and “Sheila” (woman).

This book could also fuel their imagination and inspire them to think and write creatively, mirroring Jennings’s unique style.

Andrew says

I read this aloud to the kids, and it had many laugh and groan out loud moments. Paul Jennings is great at setting up uncomfortable situations for his characters then making it worse. A lot of fun.

Charlie - A Reading Machine says

Quirky tales for Paul Jennings. These books got me through a few of my awkward years I tell you. Even kids in these stories is the underdog or the want you want to cheer for. There is often twists and turns in every story and he also has a way with coming up with a killer ending. For 7 to 13 year olds.

Jill Smith says

This is a quick and quirky read. Typical of Paul Jennings, I love his kid’s view of the world.

These nine stories cover a range of nightmare scenarios that kids growing up might find themselves in. Or would they? Would a boy become obsessed with an ice statue? So much so he kisses it and gets stuck to it, in Ice Maiden! In Birdman, a magic cat hat could save the day for Sean, so he could fly like a bird, so that he could beat Buggins? My favorite story was The Mouth Organ, a cross between beautiful then terrible and poignant. The Velvet Throne was a sad tale with a happy ending for the ever repressed Mr Simpkin. Cry Baby was about a boy who kept getting into trouble, even though he tried not to. Eyes Knows is about a boy who can’t make decisions without help from his little robot toy. He finds out some things do need to be left to grown-ups.

All the stories are clever and in kids language. No wonder Paul Jennings is a hit with his target audience.

Emma says

childhood favourite

LiA says

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By Paul Jennings

This book is very good for those who don't have time to read an entire book. At first when I started, I was so confused because I thought the chapters are about the same story. But I was wrong. Every title initiates a DIFFERENT short story. You can finish one in a 10 min at most. And the stories are also separated into a lot of small chunks. It was actually so enjoyable for me that I finished in one day!

Lia@

Rosie says

This book was so funny and mab be a bit gross but I recomend all of you to read it.
