Synopsis

Published in 1943 and long unavailable, Dark Horse Books is proud to present this landmark book from the author of such beloved tales as Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, James and the Giant Peach and Matilda. Digitally restored, this remarkable presentation of Dahl's classic story, lavishly illustrated by the artists of the Walt Disney Studios, will delight readers of all ages! The Gremlins is the story of Gus, a British World War II fighter pilot, who during the Battle of Britain turned to look out on the wing of his plane only to see an amazing sight: a little man, no more than six inches tall with horns growing from his head, drilling a hole in the plane's wing. Gus was the first man to ever see a Gremlin, and what happened after that would change the war, and the world, forever. Bought by Walt Disney to be produced as an animated motion picture (and considered to be the first story featuring the mythical airplane sabotaging creatures known as Gremlins), the project was ultimately shelved and is reprinted here for the first time in over 60 years.

Book Information

Hardcover: 56 pages
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Shipping Weight: 1 pounds
Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (33 customer reviews)
Best Sellers Rank: #113,104 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #65 in Comics & Graphic Novels > Graphic Novels > Historical & Biographical Fiction #111 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Military & Wars #112 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Europe
Age Range: 8 and up
Grade Level: 3 and up

Customer Reviews

Over 60 years ago, the talented Roald Dahl was not the author we know him to be today. Instead of finding him at his typewriter creating stories for children of all ages, he was a RAF pilot. As any airman knows, strange unexplained things can happen to aircraft. Taking this as an inspiration, Mr Dahl made use of the word 'gremlin' and soon, the RAF had a new enemy that took a place beside
the Germans. Gremlins....In the original story, these gremlins could be seen on wings and fusealges of aircraft mid air. Un-noticed pings were caused by these tiny, mischievous beings with drills, hammers, and tools designed to undo the manufacturers best. Where did they come from? According to the 'myth', the gremlins lived peaceably in a forest glenn until an aircraft factory replaced their familiar home. Not a race to take their eviction sitting down, the gremlins fight back by attacking the very planes that leave the factory. During the Battle of Britain, Gus is downed during a dog fight with a Messerchmhit squadron. Landing in the hospital, he realizes that the Gremlins can be used for good, and trains them to repair rather than destroy. The war ends, and Gus purchases the land near the factory, preserving a solitary stand of forest for the gremlins. Fast forward to 2008. Gus’ grandson, Gus, crosses the ocean from America to sell the house and return home. Good plan, but he does not know about the clever inhabitants of the house who will do anything to preserve their native forest. Exactly what they will do is yet to be seen. Like any Roald Dahl story, Gremlins (as re-released by Dark Horse in 2006), is a wonderful, innocent story with simple truths.

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The Gremlins

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