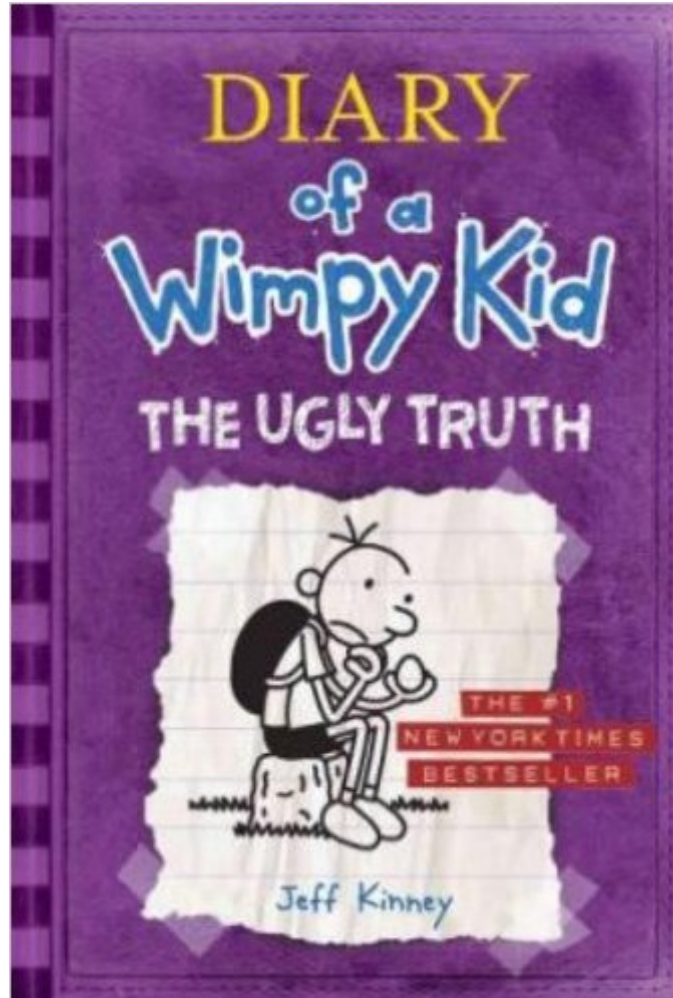


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The Ugly Truth (Diary Of A Wimpy Kid, Book 5)



Synopsis

Greg Heffley has always been in a hurry to grow up. But is getting older really all it's cracked up to be? Greg suddenly finds himself dealing with the pressures of boy-girl parties, increased responsibilities, and even the awkward changes that come with getting older—all without his best friend, Rowley, at his side. Can Greg make it through on his own? Or will he have to face the ugly truth?

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1000L (What's this?)

Series: Diary of a Wimpy Kid (Book 5)

Hardcover: 224 pages

Publisher: Harry N. Abrams; First Printing edition (November 1, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0810984911

ISBN-13: 978-0810984912

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.9 x 8.2 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars See all reviews (1,059 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,618 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #7 in Books > Humor &

Entertainment > Humor > Self-Help & Psychology #48 in Books > Children's Books > Comics &

Graphic Novels #83 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship,

Social Skills & School Life > Friendship

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

I teach 4th grade and the Diary of a Wimpy Kid books are a perennial favorite. I've read all of the books and have had them readily available in my classroom. My students were practically salivating as they awaited the arrival of this book. I read it. I enjoyed it and thought it was humorous. If I taught middle school or MAYBE even 5th grade, I would highly recommend it. However, I am really struggling with whether or not to include it in my classroom library. As other reviewers have said, kids who don't like to read devour each and every one of these books. My students beg me to make them available. However, the puberty theme gives me pause. For most kids and their parents, I don't think there's an issue. However, I can see this series opening a can of worms with "that one

parent". Even in our society where kids grow up so much faster than we did and are more savvy, not all kids are. In middle school, these issues are happening, whether parents want to face them or not. In 4th grade... I'm not sure if I feel comfortable making that call.

I wish there was a separate forum for reviewing 's customer service, because it's really not fair for an author to collect ten one-star reviews on its release date because people are upset that failed to deliver the book to them on time. I suppose a best-selling author like Jeff Kinney will survive, but it's still truly unfair to him. These reviews persist forever and they're supposed to be about the book. So, on to the book! "The Ugly Truth" was laugh-out loud funny. My middle-schooler called out from the next room many times to get my attention to read the funny parts out loud to me. After she finished, I read the whole book myself before she scooped it up again to share with friends at school. It's refreshing to finally see a comic character grow up because let's face it, puberty isn't pretty, but it is funny. Our Wimpy Kid Greg finally realizes that he is no longer a cute little kid. Now he's finding out the top secrets about puberty (which Rowley hopes not to "catch") in boys-only health class. Going to the harsh grown up dentist instead of the cuddly kids' version, Greg ends up with not only the fear of gingivitis instilled in him, but even worse, HEADGEAR. My favorite scene was the school "lock-in" that went awry in so many ways. I won't spoil the main silliness but the only way the teachers can think of to get the boys to settle down is to turn the heat off and air conditioning on so that they have to stay in their sleeping bags. Meanwhile, the girls are living the sweet life in the heated library media room. Rowley and Greg were kept apart for much of the book, but their on-and-off friendship, and the attempts by Rowley's parents to find a more mentoring "pal" to replace Greg, were understandable, and funny. The extended Heffley family factors into the book, featuring Greg's Uncle Gary as a much-married, possibly future version of Greg. Gary is half cautionary tale, half inspiration--in Greg's mind, compared to Greg's parents, Gary seems to be having much more fun. I was disappointed that the Heffley boys couldn't get it together enough for their Mom to keep up her renewed school studies...that was truly a bummer. Kinney includes a few digs at helicopter parents throughout the book. I hope in the next sequel their Mom will get to stay in school. Kids will find this book hilarious, and as an adult reader I have to applaud the little details that Kinney comes up with, such as the health teacher's unfeeling reaction to the girls who have lovingly cared for the eggs that they have to protect as though they were babies; and many small touches like Greg's hope that inheriting a textbook from a cool kid will magically make him cool too. As an author covering middle-school mayhem, he's not just coasting--Jeff Kinney still has his touch!

Let me start by saying, my just turned 9 year old does not like to read. He reads because he has to at school or because I tell him to. He doesn't enjoy it. He bought this book yesterday at the book fair. He read during silent reading time at school. He read on the bus. He read all evening. I heard him laughing out loud a bunch of times. He finished it last night before he went to bed! He even asked to spend part of his birthday money on the first 4 books today at the book fair!! Finally books that make him actually WANT to read!

Here's the thing - how do you stay on track and stay true to your creation, even as your books zoom in popularity and your creation becomes a mini-industry. Well, Kinney continues to do that. But then, can you allow your creation to grow up, and still keep that spark of good-hearted obliviousness that makes your character so popular? (I'm thinking here of how Gary Trudeau tried so hard, but just ran out of steam with "Doonesbury".) Well, so far so good on the Greg Heffley front. And, because Greg is allowed to grow up, the books haven't become stale or repetitive. The perspective and the issues that matter have changed a bit, and that seems to be keeping everything fresh. So, read on and look forward to the next volume.

A great read. It's well written and I plowed through it in one sitting. I could not put it down. I laughed, I cried, I smiled, and I pondered throughout the entire book. You know you just finished reading something great when you get towards the end and you start to panic because you don't want it to end. I thought all the characters were well flushed out and added something interesting to the story. I don't know how I can write a review without giving away the plot, so all I can say you need to read this. You won't regret it.

I really like the book The Ugly Truth by Jeff Kinney because it had a lot of funny comics. One of my favorite parts was The Lock In because it ended up with Greg and Rowley together when they weren't even friends. My Mom was happy for me to get the book so I would read. She knows that these books are the only books I really read. I would recommend this to anybody who wants a good laugh and wants to read a book with a lot of pages but is easy to read.

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