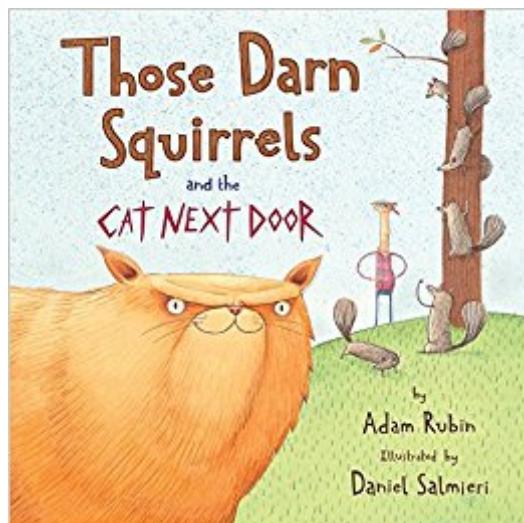


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# Those Darn Squirrels And The Cat Next Door



## Synopsis

All is calm in old man Fookwire's yard until new neighbors—Little Old Lady Hu and her cat, Muffins—move in next door. Muffins is one mean dude! He terrorizes the birds, interrupts Fookwire's painting, and ties the squirrels' tails together. Fookwire is upset, but not nearly as upset as the squirrels, who devise an ingenious plan to stop Muffins cold. The tongue-in-cheek text is perfectly complemented by the quirky, inventive illustrations.

## Book Information

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; Reprint edition (October 4, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0544809025

ISBN-13: 978-0544809024

Product Dimensions: 10 x 0.1 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 581 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #10,234 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #31 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Mice, Hamsters, Guinea Pigs & Squirrels #42 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Birds #54 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Cats

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

All is calm in old man Fookwire's yard until new neighbors—Little Old Lady Hu and her cat, Muffins—move in next door. Muffins is one mean dude! He terrorizes the birds, interrupts Fookwire's painting, and ties the squirrels' tails together. Fookwire is upset, but not nearly as upset as the squirrels, who devise an ingenious plan to stop Muffins cold. In this hilarious follow-up to *Those Darn Squirrels!*, the tongue-in-cheek text is perfectly complemented by the quirky, inventive illustrations. Sketches from the Illustrator (Click on Images to Enlarge)

Character sketch for Little Old Lady Hu and her dastardly cat, Muffins. Sketch of Hu moving in next door and disrupting the lives of Old Man Fookwire, the Floogle Bird and the Squirrels.

Sketch of the Squirrels plotting their revenge on Muffins. Sketch of the plan in action.

Finished painting of the Squirrels' plan in action. Grumpy hermit Old Man Fookwire was so upset by the intrusion of new neighbors that he wrote this angry letter to the mayor. --This text

refers to the Library Binding edition.

"Rubin's sly ironies and Salmieri's spare but deeply goofy aesthetic is child-friendly urbanity at its best. And those squirrels! Impish, beady-eyed, and never individuated, they steal the spotlight in every scene." •Publishers Weekly, starred review

My 5 year old loves all 3 of the Darn Squirrels books. He anxiously awaited the Cat Next Door, and was thrilled when it arrived. I had to read it twice in a row. He asked me if there were going to be more. I think he wants an entire series. Fortunately, the books are silly, but not in a way an adult would find terribly dull. They aren't great literature, by far, but they're amusing and fun. My son and I both shake our fists and shout, "Those darn squirrels," every time it shows up on the page. He thinks it's hilarious, and I think it's adorable.

There are three of these books, and I love each and every one of them. We put off purchasing copies because the local library has them, but I figured when my kids (aged 4 and 6) shouted "THE LIBRARY IS OPEN WE NEED THOSE DARN SQUIRRELS" each time we drove past our town library (which is often!), that I should just man up and buy them. It's a hilarious book about a grouchy old man who hates everything except the birds in his yard, and what starts out as a comical story quickly ends as a poignant tale of friendship when the lonely old man is befriended by the very thing he hates most: those darn squirrels. We read this constantly at my house, and it never gets old for my husband and I, which is good because some children's books become mundane after the second or third read. The pictures are hilarious as well, and there are small nuances on each page that only make them funnier. I think that to enjoy these books you'll need a quirky sense of humor, though, so if you don't think funny old men in silly pants and sarcastic squirrels are funny, then it may not be for you. As for me, I'm buying the next two in the series! (I also read these books to my 6th grade classes, and they found them just as hilarious as I did.)

This book is just hilarious. The angry ole cat next door to Old Man Fookwire is just too mean. My grandkids had to be taught what a wet willy and a nookie are. But the page where the cat gives the squirrels all wedgies is their favorite. Very creative and is sure to be a family favorite through the ages. I am getting all of this authors.

Very funny, and entertaining! We have squirrels who come down from the trees every day to share

the scratch we throw out for the chickens. The birds here do the same thing. We have to buy extra feed in order to keep this entertainment going, but it is well worth it for the show. This book takes that entertainment to the next step to show how the squirrels can show their appreciation. Really cute, and this will be a book I read to the children in my life over and over. (My husband and I got a kick out of this book, as well.)

I purchased this as a gift for my Dad. He loves squirrels, I mean he LOVES them. Every year for holiday I get him a squirrel themed gift, I stumbled across this series of book and have only given him one so far but the gift was a total hit! I recommend for young and old.

My daughter (age 3) thinks this book is hilarious and my husband and I do too. She now wants to make bird feeders! Tells a subtle little moral and would be appropriate for many age groups. I substitute the words "did not like" for "hate" for my daughter because she misuses that word frequently. I don't like that word in kid's books personally, but the rest of the story is so good that I don't mind skipping past it. I plan to use this as a seasonal book in our home, and bring it out during fall when the story takes place. This is a great addition to our fall and winter collection of books.

I started reading Adam's books to my preschool class a few months ago. They fell in love the second I introduced the titles. We are in the city and play in the park. They relate to the squirrels, they already thought we had a dragon living above the classroom and love blowing bubbles...now they get where they go. Adam gets the mindset and imagination of a child. I love it. And I love they are all illustrated by someone I went to art school with :)

I bought this book as a joke for my father-in-law who hates squirrels. It was brought to my attention after purchasing, "Dragons Love Tacos." It is a cute story that not only entertains the child but the adult reader as well.

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