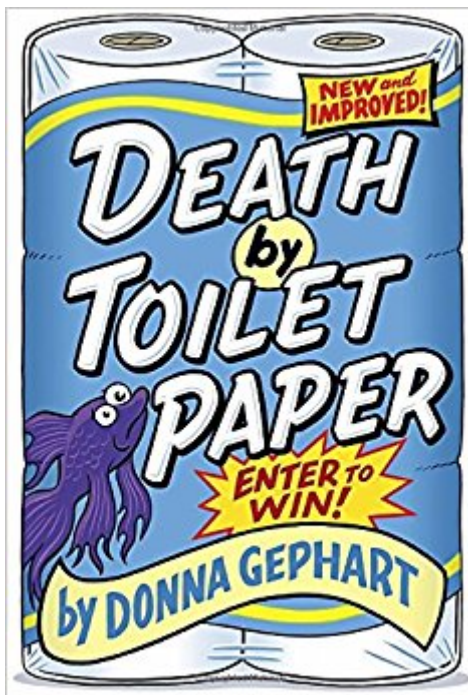


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Death By Toilet Paper



Synopsis

Fans of Louis Sachar's *A* will welcome the adventures of a contest-crazed seventh grader who uses his wits and way with words in hopes of winning a big cash prize to help his family avoid eviction. *A* Benjamin is about to lose a whole lot more than good toilet paper. If he doesn't make tons of money fast by selling candy bars and winning contests—like the Royal-T Bathroom Tissue slogan contest—his family will get kicked out of their apartment. Even with his flair for clever slogans, will Benjamin be able to win a cash prize large enough to keep a promise he made to his dad before he died? Or will he lose everything that matters to him? *A* Praise for *Death by Toilet Paper*: "Readers can't help but enjoy this heartening book about hanging in there."--Kirkus Reviews "Ben is a character kids will root for."--Publisher's Weekly "Would make a fine classroom readaloud."--The Bulletin *A* *A* *A*

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0790 (What's this?)

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: Yearling (July 28, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0385374178

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Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.7 x 7.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 36 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #200,538 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #51 in *A* Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Religious Fiction > Jewish #85 in *A* Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Homelessness & Poverty #211 in *A* Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Death & Dying

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 7

Customer Reviews

Gr 5—Since seventh-grader Benjamin Epstein lost his father to cancer last year, things have been difficult for Ben and his mother. Medical expenses have cleaned out the family's savings, and her job as a waitress doesn't bring in enough money to cover their rent. Ben's mom has one more expensive test to take to earn her CPA license and start a new job, but in the

meantime, they are facing eviction. Ben, an experienced sweepstakes enthusiast, discovers a contest sponsored by the Royal-T toilet paper company with a \$10,000 grand prize, and he knows this could be the solution to his family's problems. Compounding those troubles are a bully at school and Ben's grandfather, Zeyde Jake, who has Alzheimer's and comes to live with Ben and his mom. Ben is a determined, likable character whom readers will doggedly root for, and Gephart infuses his story with humor and heart as she tenderly explores issues of grief, loss, family, and friendship. What's more, the amusing ending—featuring a zombie bride in a toilet paper wedding dress—will leave everyone satisfied. Fun facts and trivia about toilets and toilet paper appear at the start of each chapter.—Lauren Strohecker, McKinley Elementary School, Abington School District, PA --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

"Gephart's generous view of humanity's basic goodness shines through, and she leavens her characters' difficult situation with plenty of humor. . . Readers can't help but enjoy this heartening book about hanging in there."--Kirkus Reviews"Ben is a character kids will root for, and he's surrounded by family and friends who help him see things will be okay, a message that may comfort readers facing similar circumstances."--Publisher's Weekly "Gephart, author of *How to Survive Middle School* (BCCB 6/10), again shows a deft hand at rendering difficult situations with empathy, adding just the right amount of realistic humor to relieve but not trivialize. . . Despite its title and cover art, this is not a romp, but it would make a fine classroom readaloud."--The Bulletin

A heartwarming, beautiful story! Donna Gephart's upper middle grade novel *DEATH BY TOILET PAPER* is a book that I'd hoped would never end. The characters were so real to me that they felt like family and, although I've already read it, I found myself opening the pages of the book just to spend more time with them again. Although it's middle grade, its appeal is universal ~ a book that's meant for everyone, including reluctant readers. The hero, Benjamin Epstein, is a shining example of true integrity. Gephart is a genius at writing loveable, sympathetic characters that pull at our heartstrings. I was rooting for him on every page as he navigated his way in an effort to solve his family's problems as well as his own. Although, there is great depth to this story, there's also a huge amount of laugh-out-loud humor! Then, there's the Toilet Paper element which has a life of its own in the most surprising way! You are going to love this book!

Donna Gephart is one of our most accomplished comic writers for kids -- she really knows how to

tickle the middle-grade funny bone. Although I love all her books, I think I love this one most. The story unrolls with a gross-gory scene (spoiler: it involves salsa) and then we're off on a whirling toilet bowl of a ride with Benjamin Epstein, who has big plans to save the family from eviction and the perils of scratchy bathroom tissue. Gephart isn't just funny, she writes with tons of heart -- we really feel for Benjamin, suffer with him in his losses and celebrate his triumphs when he flushes away his troubles at last. The story is also packed with interesting bathroom-related trivia (remember Mr. Whipple? Know the first recorded use of toilet paper?). Highly recommended for both boys and girls.

Death by Toilet paper was a great book. This book is about a boy named Benjamin and his mom trying to get enough money to pay back their rent this Benjamin's dad just died . Benjamin does all types of crazy things to get money he even gets in trouble by the principal . My favorite part of this book was when Benjamin was making the toilet paper dress for the ten grand prize but you guys have to read more to find out . I encourage you to read this book .

i love my product! Thank you!

Another Donna Gephart novel that I loved! Once again, Gephart pulls the reader into an intimate setting and situation and makes us truly care about the characters. Laughter, awkwardness, small triumphs, big challenges, and heart galore. I adore this book. A perfect contemporary middle grade book.

Fantastic! I loved this book. It's both funny and touching. The writing, humor, characters and situations will draw in young (and old!) readers and keep them turning pages to the very end. I can't recommend it highly enough.

I love everything about it. From the story to the little things in the book. The arch in the story

Laugh, cry, modern "coming of age"

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