

The PENGUIN of DEATH



Edward Monkton

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". . . suddenly you hear it in a voice so clear and strong, a strange and SUBTLE melody A HAUNTING Penguin song."

In this hauntingly nuanced ballad, Edward Monkton takes you on an epic journey to the heart of life . . . and to the strange and wonderful release that is DEATH by Method 412.

Lyrical. Entrancing. Once you have made the fateful journey to the enigmatic Penguin's snowy palace, he invites you in to share with him a final cup of tea before subjecting you to the unimagined ecstasy of his ultimate treatment.

A delicious mixture of euphoria and fright meld to reveal something wonderful and bright in this eccentric Monkton narrative that accompanies his trademark, hand-lettered black-and-white illustrations.

The Penguin of Death Details

Date : Published (first published October 2nd 2006)

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Author : Edward Monkton

Format : Hardcover 32 pages

Genre : Poetry, Humor, Childrens, Picture Books, Fiction, Sequential Art, Graphic Novels

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From Reader Review The Penguin of Death for online ebook

Emily says

Alas, I thought this penguin would be a Master Criminal like the chicken in Wallace & Gromit. It is not at all like that, do not make my mistake.

Mary Grace says

What the...?

Ashley Elliott says

My sister found this little book at a friend's consignment shop & skimmed it, then promptly bought it. She refused to tell us what it was about, instead waiting until we were all together that night. After we were all under blankets & cuddled up with one another, she read it to us. We all fell in love with how chilling and disturbing and hilarious it was. Since then, we've read it to two other groups. Perfect for a read aloud with young adults, especially at 2am with all the lights turned off.

Julia says

This was another recommendation from my sister and one that I have really no idea why she wanted me to read it although I am guessing it is since she knows that somehow I am attracted to some pretty weird books thus another eccentric title to add to my shelves. Otherwise still no idea just as I have no idea basically about what I just read.

Never having been much a fan of the sensation that everyone must love penguins this is one of those books that just has me shaking my head. First of all why a penguin of death and who would come up with such a thought? Why was the protagonist of the poem so happy to oblige with a penguin and just not any particular penguin but one who is apparently British with his cup of tea?

The slow rhyming melody and the description within the poem were decent while I think it may have been more receptive to me if it wasn't a darn freaky penguin. Furthermore although I know about the swan song and a few other "death embracing" songs from lore I have never heard this particular version and so it reminds me of Poe's crazy raven.

And the illustrations were too simplistic and too cartoonish for me to truly enjoy along with the poem. Although they did enhance some of the wording it was just not anything for me to write home about. And so as Poe's said Raven says...

"Nevermore!!"

Hania Douglas says

Creepy and morbid are the first two words to come to mind, followed by a sense of anti climactic emptiness, followed by a weird fuzzy feeling like when your pet got run over by a truck and dragged for a mile but your parents made you feel okay with it because they explained that the per has gone to pet heaven. I just feel weird with it, okay.

Rodolfo Morientes says

This tiny book captivated me. Its simplicity, catchy rhyme and minimalistic drawings made an interesting 5 minutes-reading.

Drew says

If only life, and death, could be so comforting and simple. Thank you, Penguin. Thank you for the thought.

Emily says

I loved this very short but very deep poem/book. It was just lovely and when I reached the end, I had a moment where i thought, "Wow, life is beautiful. I'm glad I'm here." If you're feeling down or esoteric, read this book.

Rachel says

This is the most bizarre Edward Monkton book I have read so far, which says a lot. It's a cute poem about visiting a penguin who literally kills you softly with his song. I don't quite get it, but it is quirky and weird and has a penguin so 3 stars.

Art says

A Grim Reaper penguin...sort of...I didn't like it.

Julia O'Connell says

One of the strangest books I have ever ready, this tiny illustrated book contains the tale in rhyming verse of a

nameless narrator committing penguin-assisted suicide.

The cutesy rhyming and whimsical ink drawings form a strange juxtaposition with the mature and complex subject matter.

A fun novelty book for those who enjoy the absurd and the morbid. Despite appearances, not a children's book.

Lesley says

Initially I read this book quickly as I'd picked it up in a guest house lounge and spotted it was an Edward Munnion book. I found it beautiful and emotionally engaging and a beautiful "way to go." Others read it and commented that they found it "sinister". I therefore purchased a second hand copy upon returning home and re-read it. Whilst I can see where the other comments are coming from, I stand by my original and instinctive impression. I guess that means the book is successful, as although short on words it's diverse in potential ways of receiving the message.

yengyeng says

I have encountered an apologetic undies-wearing ombudsman SNAG penguin (Bloom County's Opus), a menacing projection of madness penguin (Tanith Lee's Paradys series) and a beer-guzzling, hot tub dwelling penguin (Pen Pen in Evangelion) in the books that I have read. A penguin of death is a first for me.

Melissa says

I actually had no idea what this book was when I got it. Turns out it is a short, simple poem that was not all that bad.

surfmadpig says

Wise and wonderful.
