



Nobody Likes a Goblin

Ben Hatke

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) ➔

Nobody Likes a Goblin

Ben Hatke

Nobody Likes a Goblin Ben Hatke

Goblin, a cheerful little homebody, lives in a cosy, rat-infested dungeon, with his only friend, Skeleton. Every day, Goblin and Skeleton play with the treasure in their dungeon. But one day, a gang of "heroic" adventurers bursts in. These marauders trash the place, steal all the treasure, and make off with Skeleton—leaving Goblin all alone!

It's up to Goblin to save the day. But first he's going to have to leave the dungeon and find out how the rest of the world feels about goblins.

Nobody Likes a Goblin Details

Date : Published June 7th 2016 by First Second
ISBN : 9781626720817
Author : Ben Hatke
Format : Hardcover 36 pages
Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Fantasy, Adventure

 [Download Nobody Likes a Goblin ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Nobody Likes a Goblin ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Nobody Likes a Goblin Ben Hatke

From Reader Review Nobody Likes a Goblin for online ebook

Attila Cthulhuson says

This was fantastically cute. This is the sort of book that you get for your D&D-loving comrade when they procure offspring.

Goblin's friend Skeleton is kidnapped by adventurers who raided their dungeon seeking loot. They grabbed up skeleton (who wears a crown and armor) and toss him on a cart of loot, along with much gold, treasure chests, a goose who was friends with a troll, and a surly young maiden. The adventurers are assholes, seeking only "loot" and nothing else. Yet everyone hates a goblin!

This story is a nice turnabout from heroic adventurers gathering loot and glory, trampling the icky bad guys underfoot. The normally "bad" characters -- or those you plow through as you level up -- are focused on and empathetic.

Sweet, polite goblin reaches out to those on its way, seeking his best friend Skeleton.

Awkward interactions ensue:

"I'm looking for my friend Skeleton", said Goblin.

"ACK!" shrieked the farmer.

"A FILTHY GOBLIN!"

At the end Goblin will find there are others who like him, and we have a great closing image of him and his new friends eating dinner together, even the surly maiden, who is no longer surly after fighting with Goblin and the others as they bested the adventurers in the end. It was a nice touch.

The art is fantastic and the text isn't overdone. This is a good book to own, especially if you're into D&D, fantasy RPGs and the like. Even if you or the potential reader aren't into those things they'll still enjoy the cute illustrations, story and message that expectations for a person can be horribly unfair, and that even if you are expected to be evil/gross/scary there are still those who will see you for you and love you.

I got the review copy from NetGalley, but I'll be buying it for a comrade who recently procured offspring.

First Second Books says

Ben Hatke lives in DC, so when he turned this book in, he took the bus up to New York and gave us the art for it in person.

It was awesome!

Seeing the watercolors for this book all laid out on our conference room table was a marvelous experience -- and the book looks even better.

Erica says

I read this to Evie while Gabe was making dinner the other night.

You'll note that she is looking to see where the goblin is going to land when he falls off the edge of the book. She hates gobble-ums, just hates them. No, not as much as she hates yuckoons because they mock her, after all, but gobble-ums are right up there because they want to eat her (I may have told her there were goblins outside waiting to eat her and that's why she has to stay indoors at night and when I'm not home) At any rate, I read this to her because I thought it might be relevant to her interests, as she is one of the nobodies who don't like goblins. Gobble-ums. Whatever.

So, Ben Hatke is a giant NERD.

Exhibit 1:

Check out those dice, yo.

Nerd dice.

And those are probably Magic: The Gathering cards, too.

Nerd cards.

But look at that skeleton? Is he not the cutest ever? HE IS! He's Goblin's best friend and I can see why. He indulges in Goblin's nerdiness, he let's Goblin wear his crown, and just look at that faaace! ADORBS!

Exhibit 2:

Who knows what this represents?

Well, he tells you on the page. It's an ADVENTURING PARTY.

It's nerds. It's a bunch of nerds at a table with graph paper pretending to be a rogue (or, if you play World of Warcraft, a rouge), an elven (half orc?) warrior? She might be a paladin but I don't think so. A dwarven warrior type and a magic-user. I'm not sure where the healer is. Maybe that one already died. They're usually pretty fragile. I don't know, I'm not nerdy enough to understand this nerd stuff.

But Hatke clearly is.

Nerd.

And yet, his ghosts are so cute

and look at the springtime-ish shirt this troll sports:

That's dapper so I'll forgive all the nerdness going on in this story...that I actually enjoyed quite well.

Evie? Not so much. She found the ending to be particularly gross.

Zaz says

Yey for minorities! It was nice to see the point of view of the goblin and his friends and I felt a little ashamed

for roaming caverns and dungeons to fight the poor creatures and steal their treasures. The characters and adventures were introduced in a nice way, with some suspense, and nothing was frightening which was nice as these characters are usually on the creepy side. The story was well paced and the art worked well. It's really always a pleasure to read something by Ben.

Calista says

This turns the fantasy story upside down on it's head. What happens when you are happy and content in your dungeon and a group of loud adventurers burst in and steal all your stuff and your best friend and off they go? Well, you go get them of course.

This book was so much action and fun and heart. I dare anyone to resist the charms of Nobody Likes a Goblin. I think everyone will like the Goblin King after reading this story. This reminds me a little of the Ugly Duckling. Everyone chases you and is hating on you for being different until you find your people. This is a big little story. I see many layers here.

The kids both loved this and there was a chorus of Read it Again and again. Bravo Ben Hatke.

Kristie says

Cute story about a little goblin who goes out into the big world to save his friend, Skeleton. Not much to it, but cute nonetheless. I'm sure little kids will love it.

Sven Robertson says

In the interest of full disclosure, I received a complimentary advanced electronic copy of NOBODY LIKES A GOBLIN through Netgalley.

Something tells me that before Ben Hatke wrote this book he took out his 20-sided die and won his saving throw against writer's block because NOBODY LIKES A GOBLIN is in the top five best children's books I have ever enjoyed. If you have ever enjoyed role-playing games, Tolkien novels, or just cheering for the underdog, you have no reason to read further. Just buy the book (or read further if you would like). Hatke's storytelling can appeal to any child, though.

There I was, a teenager hopped up on Mountain Dew. My level one druid heard a noise in the hallway. The adventuring party was worried because we had already been chased out by a troll that we knew we could not handle. There they were--two goblins walking down the hallway. Without any discussion, we attacked and won. We took what little treasure we found and ran out of there. That's the life of a goblin in role-playing games, and NOBODY LIKES A GOBLIN starts out in the same manner (but without the killing). One day Goblin is living large. The next day an adventuring party takes his stuff.

Hatke tells this story from the Goblin's perspective, and he does a masterful job humanizing the lowest humanoid of the fantasy world. You cannot read this book without feeling sympathy for Goblin and cheering for him as he decides to go out into the world even though he gets disrespected by everyone he meets. Trolls. Villagers. Elves. Adventuring parties. Nobody likes a goblin!

The book, though brief, tells such a great story with a great premise, wonderful plot, and even a fun subplot. Some children's authors seem to write for the adults reading with too many references to things that a kid just won't get. Most children's authors write to children with their adult readers as an afterthought. It's cool, I am reading children's books for my daughter's sake. Hatke is one of those rare authors who can write a book that children will understand while keeping adults (who are into fantasy) entertained.

While the jokes might be better appreciated by "fantasy nerds," that is not a requirement for enjoying the book. My five-year-old daughter never even heard of a goblin, and she loved it. From the perspective of someone who does not get the background context, this is a book about an underdog who overcomes some not-so-nice people (and others).

Like the story itself, the illustrations are not too cartoonish but not serious either. They are not scary, but each of the illustrations is appropriate for the different emotions that Goblin experiences. There is no violence in either the writing or the pictures, and even though nobody in the story likes a goblin, young readers will after they read this book.

Hannah Greendale says

Goblin is perfectly happy in his cave, thank you very much. He has pet rats, a tasty boot to eat, and the companionship of Skeleton, his very best friend who lives in the Treasure Room. When a band of adventurers loot Gobin's cave, he's presented with a quest.

*The adventurers took everything.
They took the gold.
They took the maps, the books,
the gems, and the scrolls.
And they took Skeleton.
So Goblin put on his crown
and walked out into the wide
world to find his friend.*

With alluring watercolor illustrations, the author brings to life a world where trolls and elves and adventure await. *Nobody Likes a Goblin* has a treasure-filled cave, haunted swamp, talking skeleton, and a sweet message that home can be found where one's friends are.

Spencer Orey says

My toddler loves Julia's House for Lost Creatures, and we were thrilled to find this book at the library. It's a blast and inverts the classic D&D-style adventurer party plundering a dungeon narrative (even though my kid obviously doesn't know anything about that). Touching, sweet, and the illustrations are gorgeous. A++ great goblins, great fun.

Jen says

This was a super cute read, I really loved the determined look on Goblin's face when he put his crown on to

go get his friend back! I was kind of confused about the wench tied up in the adventurer's cart and how a small horde of goblins could possibly scare an adventuring party away, rather than getting slaughtered.

Sorry, I'm a D&Der, this is really cute, but not true to how a gaming group of adults works. I guess for a kids' group, but I never played in a kids group, so I couldn't say.

Four stars because the artwork is gorgeous, the story is cute and goblin is just precious! Definitely recommended. :)

Jacob says

Excellent!! A wonderful fantasy tale that pokes a little fun at fantasy tropes while entertaining with a good solid story with amazingly beautiful art! Also I enjoyed the way the story ended quite a bit!

Mary Catelli says

Got a freebie through Goodreads.

A light, cheerful picture book with charming art. And some tweaks that any D&D player will know. . . 'cause Goblin is living in his cave (without monsters in the complex) until adventurers clean out the cave complex , including his best friend Skeleton. So Goblin sets out.

Nice touches like a pair of small dragons watching him along the way.

Jasmine says

Super cute, and best tiny dragons ever. Also friendship. (These reviews are really struggling. Just read it, okay?)

David Schaafsma says

Each year I and my family read and rate all the Goodreads picture book nominees. This one is nominated for 2016. I make a few comments and then add their separate ratings and a comment from each of them. There's 20 (15 first round and 5 new ones for the semi-final round) and this is the fourteenth being rated. My rating might be somewhat influenced by the family, naturally.

This was published by comics publisher First Second and done by a comics/illustrator guy. Fantasy story for kids. I thought it was good, a little amusing

Tara (my wife): 4 stars. It was cute. And relevant today because everyone hated them for being different even though they did nothing wrong.

Harry (11): 4 stars. It was really funny.

Hank (10): 3 stars. I would have liked it better if I were younger.

Lyra (9): 3 stars. I like how everyone but other monsters and one girl liked Goblin.

Jessica says

I think I may be the odd voice out here, but this picture book will probably appeal more to nerd/geek parents (or aunts/uncles; grandparents) than children. While I enjoyed it, and loved the pictures, I really cannot see a general appeal here since I doubt the majority of children (or parents) are overly familiar with the character classes that inhabit the world of D&D and RPG's.

Still, a lovely little book with a relatively positive message about self-image and self-acceptance. "Relatively" because the adventurers never being heard from again was a bit ominous and the goblin lying about being a goblin king was slightly detrimental to any character lessons one might draw from the text. However, I truly think the author's point was purely to create a picture book for avid gaming parents/babysitters/aunts/uncles/etc. to introduce wee little ones to a taste of the world they love. As a picture book homage to gaming, the author hit the nail on the head :-D

Thank you to the publisher for providing an electronic galley proof of this book for review purposes. I need to go see what else the author has penned for an older audience...
