

The Devil's Intern

By Donna Hosie



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Seventeen-year-old Mitchell Johnson swipes a time-travel device so he can escape his internship in Hell's accounting office, but his plans to return to Earth and alter his own death take an unexpected turn when his three closest friends insist on accompanying him back to the land of the living.



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The Devil's Intern By Donna Hosie Bibliography

Sales Rank: #1113119 in Books
Published on: 2015-07-20
Original language: English

• Number of items: 1

• Dimensions: 8.25" h x .80" w x 5.50" l, .0 pounds

• Binding: Paperback

• 288 pages



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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 10 Up—Hosie has written a book that will not only entertain but maybe even enlighten. Seventeen-year-old Mitchell Johnson has spent the last four years in Hell, where he is the Devil's intern in the accounting office. With the number of new arrivals on the rise, Hell's finances are strained. Fortunately, the Devil has a plan to use his Viciseometer, a time-travel device, to limit the number of those destined for Hell. Mitchell sees it as an opportunity to change his fate and revisit the day he met his fate with a bus. After stealing the Viciseometer, he travels back to the past with three of his friends (a Viking prince, a 17th-century peasant, and a wild-haired gal from the 1960s) and attempts to alter history, only to learn that life and death are complicated and unpredictable. Interesting characters, nonstop adventure, and humor with a touch of heart will not disappoint teens looking for a dark comedy. Glimpses of the afterlife could also spark discussion among readers.—Karen Alexander, Lake Fenton High School, Linden, MI

Review

Hosie has written a book that will not only entertain but maybe even enlighten. Seventeen-year-old Mitchell Johnson has spent the last four years in Hell, where he is the Devil's intern in the accounting office. With the number of new arrivals on the rise, Hell's finances are strained. Fortunately, the Devil has a plan to use his Viciseometer, a time-travel device, to limit the number of those destined for Hell. Mitchell sees it as an opportunity to change his fate and revisit the day he met his fate with a bus. After stealing the Viciseometer, he travels back to the past with three of his friends (a Viking prince, a 17th-century peasant, and a wild-haired gal from the 1960s) and attempts to alter history, only to learn that life and death are complicated and unpredictable. Interesting characters, nonstop adventure, and humor with a touch of heart will not disappoint teens looking for a dark comedy. Glimpses of the afterlife could also spark discussion among readers. -- School Library Journal, Starred Review

A comic, time-traveling trip to Hell and back. After four years in Hell, Mitchell thinks he's found a way to escape by going back in time and preventing his death. Inside Hell's vast bureaucracy, he works as in intern to Septimus in the accounting department. It seems that most souls go to Hell rather than Up There, as the damned call Heaven. Hell is becoming seriously overcrowded and has financial issues. When Mitchell learns that Septimus has possession of the Viciseomater, a pocket-watch like time-travel device, he unites with almost-girlfriend Medusa and best friends Alfarin, a Viking prince from the year 970, and his girlfriend, Elinor, who died in the Great Fire of London in 1666. The team first lands in New York and checks into the Plaza. Unsurprisingly, things don't go according to plan, and the group begins to sense that some nasty characters from Hell are after them. Hosie writes with a decidedly wry comic style even as she unfolds her dramatic story. The worst job in Hell, cleaning out the ground-floor toilets, is reserved, for example, for reality TV stars. For all the story's lightness, she doesn't ignore the ever present problem of paradox: What happens if these characters succeed in preventing their own deaths? Just outstanding fun for those who enjoy snarky comedy and suspense. --Kirkus Reviews, Starred Review

About the Author

Donna Hosie is the award-winning author of the critically-acclaimed THE DEVIL'S series. Donna is also the author of THE RETURN TO CAMELOT trilogy, and THE CHILDREN OF CAMELOT series. Donna is a proud Rayenclaw, geek, and lover of Mars Bars.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Arthur Atwood:

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