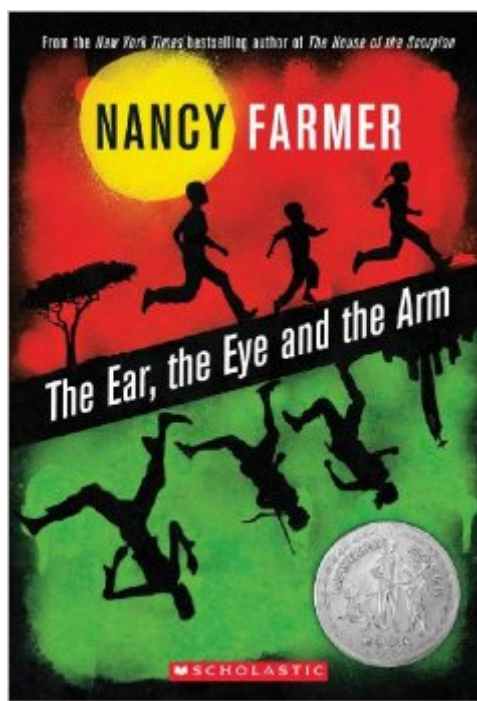


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The Ear, The Eye, And The Arm



Synopsis

This Newbery Honor book by award-winning, bestselling author Nancy Farmer is being reissued in paperback and as an e-book! The year is 2174. The place is Zimbabwe, Africa. Three adventurous children escape their parents' heavily guarded mansion to explore the dangerous world outside. They soon learn how dangerous it really is. Tendai, the oldest boy, is their leader, although he worries about being brave enough. Rita, his sister, is an expert at starting fights. Kuda, his little brother, is willing to try anything. They are quickly enslaved in a plastic mine ruled by the terrifying She Elephant and her army of vlei people. Vlei people have been living in the dump so long they look like piles of trash. The children flee them to find new perils. They are pursued by the Ear, the Eye and the Arm, detectives hired by the children's parents, who always seem to arrive too late. The worst danger of all lies at the top of the Mile High MacIlwaine, a hotel so tall that it sways like a tree in the wind. For up there are not merely humans, but spirits whose aim is to devour the souls of Zimbabwe.

Book Information

Paperback: 336 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Paperbacks; Reprint edition (January 1, 2012)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 6.8 x 0.8 x 7.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars See all reviews (360 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #44,798 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #29 in Books > Children's Books >

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Mysteries & Detectives #474 in Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Science Fiction

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

The Ear, the Eye, and the Arm is one of my all-time favorite books. And I don't mean just one of my all-time favorite KID books. It is rich and complex and imaginative enough for any adult reader to savor. This story manages to blend and blur comedy with creepy, supernatural and surrealistic

horror, cultural legend with a private detective story, far future with distant past, and science fiction with social insight. This is done with a cast of characters that are all splendidly drawn and recognizable, KNOWABLE human beings. From the 3 children at the heart of the adventure, to the mutated, talented, and absolutely luckless 3 private eyes charged with saving them, the characters are all clear, laughable, flawed, and loveable. Tendai is smart and imaginative, but doubts his own personal courage. Rita, his chubby little sister, is spoiled and self-centered, but strong-minded. Kuda, their little brother, is tough and curious, but has no ability to measure consequences before acting. Escaping from the ultra-safety of their wealthy parents' beautiful but claustrophobic estate, they have mere moments of freedom before they fall into the hands of organized criminals. They end up finding help from unlikely sources - the Trashman, a homeless tramp that cannot talk, the She-Elephant, the criminal queen of the tunnels of the radioactive dumpheap - but of course, most of all from their own unsuspected resourcefulness and determination, and at last from the 3 private detectives for whom the book is titled, who get everywhere, of course, always a bit too late... The story line is anything but simple. The children escape from one danger only to fall prey to another, but danger comes not only from expected directions.

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