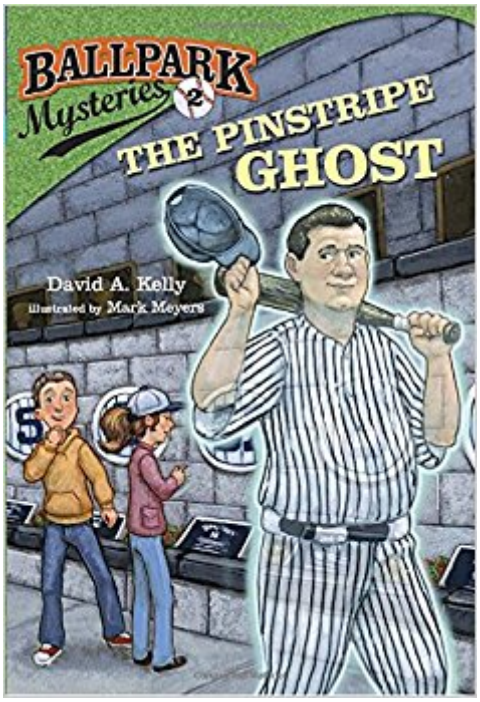
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The Pinstripe Ghost (Ballpark Mysteries)



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Synopsis

Batting secondÃ¢â ¬â •and perfect for HalloweenÃ¢â ¬â •book #2 in an early chapter book mystery series where each book is set in a different American ballpark! Mike and Kate are waiting for Kate's mom at a boring press conference in Yankee Stadium when the team official says something that makes Mike perk up his ears. There are rumors that the ghost of Babe Ruth is haunting the new stadium! A chill air blasts down a service hallway before every home game, along with various thumps and bumps. Is the Bambino really searching for his missing locker?The Pinstripe Ghost includes a fun fact page about New York's Yankee Stadium.Cross Ron Roy's mystery series with Matt Christopher's sports books and you get the Ballpark Mysteries: fun, puzzling whodunnits aimed right at beginning readers.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 520L (What's this?)
Series: Ballpark Mysteries (Book 2)
Paperback: 112 pages
Publisher: Random House Books for Young Readers; 37311th edition (February 22, 2011)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 037586704X
ISBN-13: 978-0375867040
Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.2 x 7.6 inches
Shipping Weight: 2.1 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 54 customer reviews
Best Sellers Rank: #20,276 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #27 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Baseball #108 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Spine-Chilling Horror #175 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Mysteries & Detectives
Age Range: 6 - 9 years
Grade Level: 1 - 4

Customer Reviews

DAVID A. KELLY has written for many newspapers and magazines, and Babe Ruth and the Baseball Curse, published in spring 2009, was his first book for children. He lives 15 minutes from Fenway Park in Newton, Massachusetts, with his wife Alice; two sons, Steven and Scott; and a dog named Sam. MARK MEYERS grew up in Utah and studied art in San Francisco at the Academy of Art University. This is his first project for Random House.

1 Spooky News Ã Â Ã Â Mike Walsh had always wanted to visit Yankee Stadium. But now that he was there, he just wanted to leave. Ã Â Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“When do you think this will be over?Ã¢â ¬Â• he asked his cousin, Kate Hopkins. The two were sitting in the back row of a press conference at the stadium. Ã¢â ¬Å“I canÃ¢â ¬â„¢t wait to try out that rooftop pool at the hotel!Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã Â Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“Soon. You know my momÃ¢â ¬â •super sports reporter!Ã¢â ¬Â• Kate said. She pulled her long brown ponytail through the back of a blue Cooperstown baseball cap. Ã¢â ¬Å“She always likes to stay until the end and get in one last question.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã Â Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“Just like you,Ã¢â ¬Â• Mike teased. Ã Â Ã Â KateÃ¢â ¬â„¢s mother was a reporter for the website American Sportz. She and the kids were at Yankee Stadium in New York City for a spring weekend series against the Seattle Mariners. They had driven down that morning from their home in upstate New York. Ã Â Ã Â Mike pulled a well-worn baseball out of the front pouch of his sweatshirt. He tossed it from hand to hand. Ã¢â ¬Å“When we get back to the hotel, letÃ¢â ¬â„¢s see who can swim underwater the farthest!Ã¢â ¬Â• he said. Ã Â Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“Sure. But donÃ¢â ¬â„¢t make everything a competition,Ã¢â ¬Â• Kate said, Ã¢â ¬Å“unless you want to keep losing!Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â„¢ Ã Â Ã Â Mike rolled his eyes. He was good at sports. But Kate was, too. Sports were a big deal to both of their families. KateÃ¢â ¬â„¢s mom used to be a pro softball player, and her dad was a baseball scout. MikeÃ¢â ¬â„¢s parents owned a sporting goods store in Cooperstown. Ã Â Ã Â At the front of the room, a team official was talking about the upcoming series. The first Mariners-Yankees game was the next day. Ã Â Ã Â Mike drummed his fingers on the side of his chair. He liked action more than talk, and press conferences were all talk and no action. But at least it was baseball talk. Ã Â Ã Â The official finished answering a question. Ã¢â ¬Å“ThatÃ¢â ¬â„¢s it for today,Ã¢â ¬Â• he said. Ã¢â ¬Å“Except for one last thing. The famous author Mr. Robert Williams will be here all weekend near the main entrance. HeÃ¢â ¬â„¢ll be signing copies of his new book, Ghosts in the Ballpark: A History of Haunted Baseball Stadiums and Supernatural Superstars.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã Â Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“What about the ghost of Babe Ruth?Ã¢â ¬Â• Mrs. Hopkins asked. Ã¢â ¬Å“Will he show up this weekend?Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã Â Ã Â Kate turned to Mike, her brown eyes wide. Ã¢â ¬Å“A ghost?Ã¢â ¬Â• she asked. Ã¢â ¬Å“How come Mom didnÃ¢â ¬â„¢t tell us about it?Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã Â Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“Aunt Laura probably wanted it to be a surprise,Ã¢â ¬Â• Mike replied. Suddenly, he wasnÃ¢â ¬â„¢t bored at all. Ã¢â ¬Å“Shh. I want to hear what he says.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã Â Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“Ummmm . . . IÃ¢â ¬â •I donÃ¢â ¬â„¢t know,Ã¢â ¬Â• the man stammered. He mopped his brow and riffled through his papers. Mike thought he looked as if he was stalling for time. Ã¢â ¬Å“Officially, there arenÃ¢â ¬â„¢t any ghosts

in Yankee Stadium.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã Â Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“Some people are saying that the stadium is haunted,Ã¢â ¬Â• Mrs. Hopkins added, Ã¢â ¬Å“because the original Yankee Stadium where Babe Ruth played was torn down and this new one was built.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã Â Ã Â A few of the other reporters nodded. Ã Â Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“I talked to some workers. They have heard strange noises,Ã¢â ¬Â• a reporter with long blond hair put in. Ã Â Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“Oh, noises,Ã¢â ¬Â• the official said. He waved a hand. Ã¢â ¬Å“Yankee Stadium is big. YouÃ¢â ¬â„¢ll always have some funny noises here and there. But those stories about a ghost are just thatÃ¢â ¬â • stories.Ã¢â ¬Â• He gave a nervous laugh. Ã Â Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“So you have no comment about Babe RuthÃ¢â ¬â„¢s ghost?Ã¢â ¬Â• Mrs. Hopkins asked. Ã¢â ¬Å“Or if heÃ¢â ¬â„¢ll be here this weekend?Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã Â Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“No,Ã¢â ¬Â• the official said. Ã¢â ¬Å“Leave the questions about supernatural superstars to Mr. Williams. HeÃ¢â ¬â„¢s the expert. WeÃ¢â ¬â„¢ll focus on baseball.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã Â Ã Â Mike had never heard anything so cool. He leaned toward Kate. Ã¢â ¬Å“LetÃ¢â ¬â„¢s try to find the ghost!Ã¢â ¬Â• he said. Ã Â Ã Â At last the press conference was over. Kate and Mike went out to the hallway to wait for Mrs. Hopkins. Ã Â Ã Â Kate stayed busy by counting in Spanish. She kept track of the numbers using her fingers. Ã¢â ¬Å“Uno, dos, tres, cuatro, cinco, seis, siete, ocho, nueve, diez . . .Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã Â Ã Â KateÃ¢â ¬â„¢s father spoke Spanish and she wanted to learn. So she was teaching herself by reading books and practicing. Ã Â Ã Â Five minutes went by. Kate tapped her foot. Sometimes her mom got caught up talking to other reporters. She needed Kate to remind her to move along. Ã Â Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“IÃ¢â ¬â„¢m going to go find my mom,Ã¢â ¬Â• Kate said to Mike. Ã¢â ¬Å“WeÃ¢â ¬â„¢ll meet you here.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã Â Ã Â Kate stepped back into the pressroom. Meanwhile, Mike leaned against a soda machine and tossed his baseball back and forth. The crowd of reporters thinned out. Ã Â Ã Â Whoosh! Ã Â Ã Â The baseball slipped past MikeÃ¢â ¬â„¢s left hand. Ã Â Ã Â Clunk . . . clunk . . . clunk. Ã Â Ã Â The ball bounced on the floor and rolled into the foot of a passing workman. He was wearing a blue shirt that read ACE AIRCONDITIONING. Little white clouds and icicles circled the words. Another workman was following him. Ã Â Ã Â The first workman bent down and picked up the ball. Ã¢â ¬Å“Hey, youÃ¢â ¬â„¢d better work on your catches, Mickey Mantle!Ã¢â ¬Â• he said. He tossed the baseball back to Mike. Ã¢â ¬Å“YouÃ¢â ¬â„¢re not going to make it to the Yankees with that kind of fielding.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã Â Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“Thanks,Ã¢â ¬Â• Mike said. A blush spread over his freckled face. Ã¢â ¬Å“Sorry.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã Â Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“No problem,Ã¢â ¬Â• the workman said. Mike looked more closely at him. Curly red hair poked out from under his Yankees baseball cap. He wasnÃ¢â ¬â„¢t very old at all, probably a teenager. Ã Â Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“Come on, Sammy,Ã¢â ¬Â• the other workman said. Ã¢â ¬Å“We have to finish fixing that air conditioner by the end of today.

TomorrowÃ¢â ¬â„¢s a game day. We wonÃ¢â ¬â„¢t be allowed in the stadium.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã Â Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“Okay, Dad.Ã¢â ¬Â• Sammy smiled at Mike and then ran to catch up with his father. Ã Â Ã Â Mike went back to tossing the ball. The hallway was quiet. Ã Â Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“Boo!Ã¢â ¬Â•

I have read this series with a group of third grade students and the students really liked it. I was pleased to read an author that has written many more books with this theme because I try very hard to get my struggling readers to want to read more titles from an author. Both the girls and boys liked this series and have decided to take them out from my room for their silent reading books!

The Ballpark Mysteries series is the perfect series for a young boy who is obsessed with baseball. He was so excited to read these books and finished them in no time! I didn't read this myself, but according to him it was a very good book. It has since been passed down to his younger brother, who isn't so much into baseball but enjoys mystery. So it's a perfect book for the both of them! Covers all the bases (get it?!)

My 7 year old is reading this series, he loves this! He plays little league and this series is really pulling him in. He is able to read these independently and is enjoying the stories.

My son loves these books. He struggled with reading, but now that he found something he enjoys to read, it has not been such a struggle and he enjoys it.

My baseball obsessed little reader loves it.

Didn't know these exsisted until not long ago. This is the second one I read and thought it was very entertaining for a young reader. I have already ordered the next 2. I love baseball and this give you a little of that as well as a little mystery.

My 8-yr-old love the series' true ballpark facts in each mystery. It is a very fast read for him though; maybe 30 minutes.

MY 8 YEAR OLD GRANDSON, WHO IS A NY YANKEES FAN, REALLY ENJOYED READING THIS BOOK.

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