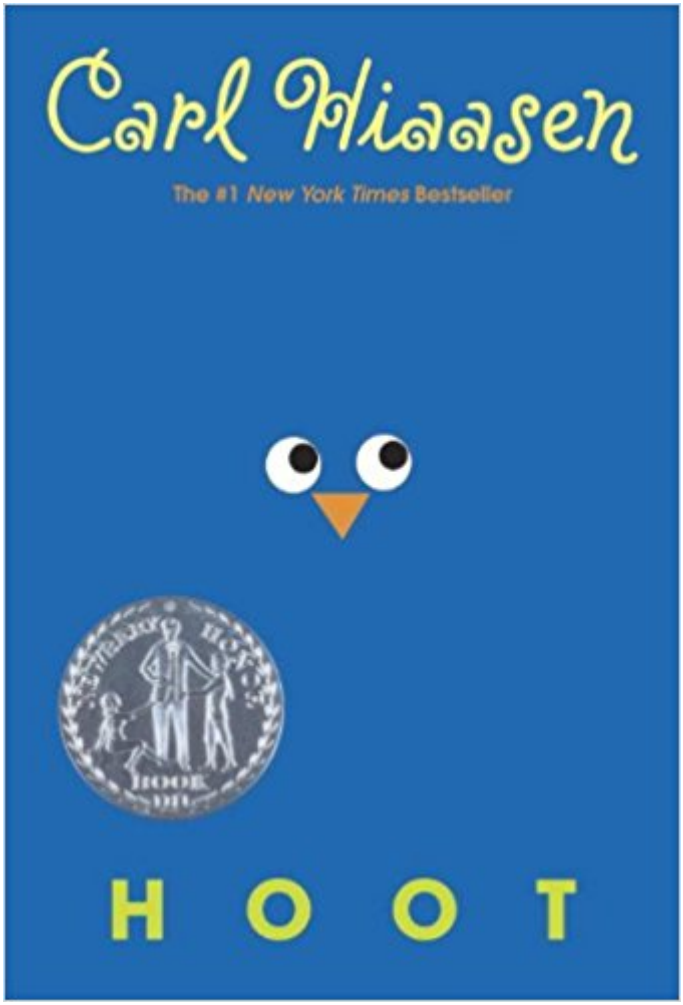
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Synopsis

This Newbery Honor-winning, hilarious Floridian adventure involves new kids, bullies, alligators, eco-warriors, pancakes, pint-sized owls, and more. A New York Times bestseller!Everybody loves Mother PaulaÃ¢â ¬â„¢s pancakes. Everybody, that is, except the colony of cute but endangered owls that live on the building site of the new restaurant. Can the awkward new kid and his feral friend prank the pancake people out of town? Or is the owlsÃ¢â ¬â„¢ fate cemented in pancake batter?Ã¢â ¬Å“A wonderful tour de-force.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •The Boston Globe Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“A rollicking, righteous story.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •The Miami Herald Ã Â Ã¢â ¬Å“Yes, it is a hoot.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •The Washington PostFrom the Hardcover edition.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0760 (What's this?)

Paperback: 292 pages

Publisher: Yearling; 1 edition (December 27, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0440419395

ISBN-13: 978-0440419396

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.7 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 1,048 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,589 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Environment #10 inÃ Â Books > Reference > English as a Second Language #11 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Animals > Birds

Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 and up

Customer Reviews

Roy Eberhardt is the new kid--again. This time around it's Trace Middle School in humid Coconut Grove, Florida. But it's still the same old routine: table by himself at lunch, no real friends, and thick-headed bullies like Dana Matherson pushing him around. But if it wasn't for Dana Matherson mashing his face against the school bus window that one day, he might never have seen the tow-headed running boy. And if he had never seen the running boy, he might never have met tall, tough, bully-beating Beatrice. And if he had never met Beatrice, he might never have discovered the burrowing owls living in the lot on the corner of East Oriole Avenue. And if he had never discovered

the owls, he probably would have missed out on the adventure of a lifetime. Apparently, bullies do serve a greater purpose in the scope of the universe. Because if it wasn't for Dana Matherson... In his first novel for a younger audience, Carl Hiaasen (Basket Case, etc.) plunges readers right into the middle of an ecological mystery, made up of endangered miniature owls, the Mother Paula's All-American Pancake House scheduled to be built over their burrows, and the owls' unlikely allies--three middle school kids determined to beat the screwed-up adult system. Hiaasen's tongue is firmly in cheek as he successfully cuts his slapstick sense of humor down to kid-size. Sure to be a hoot, er, hit with middle school mystery fans. (Ages 10 to 15) --Jennifer Hubert --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

With a Florida setting and proenvironment, antidevelopment message, Hiaasen (Sick Puppy) returns to familiar turf for his first novel for young readers. Characteristically quirky characters and comic twists will surely gain the author new fans, though their attention may wander during his narrative's intermittently protracted focus on several adults, among them a policeman and the manager of a construction site for a new franchise of a pancake restaurant chain. Both men are on a quest to discover who is sabotaging the site at night, including such pranks as uprooting survey stakes, spray-painting the police cruiser's windows while the officer sleeps within and filling the portable potties with alligators. The story's most intriguing character is the boy behind the mischief, a runaway on a mission to protect the miniature owls that live in burrows underneath the site. Roy, who has recently moved to Florida from Montana, befriends the homeless boy (nicknamed Mullet Fingers) and takes up his cause, as does the runaway's stepsister. Though readers will have few doubts about the success of the kids' campaign, several suspenseful scenes build to the denouement involving the sitcom-like unraveling of a muckity-muck at the pancake house. These, along with dollops of humor, help make the novel quite a hoot indeed. Ages 10-up. Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

What a fun book. Great literature for avid upper elementary and middle school readers. Even a fun and quick read for adults. Well written mystery with plenty of positive messages for young people. Highly recommend this book.

I loved this book. I was looking for an easy, funny, sweet story, after having read far too many Holocaust books. This is a day read and worth every moment of your time. If this is a kid's book,

than remember, we are all kids at heart.

This book was in my granddaughter's summer reading list. I read it to be able to discuss the content with her and loved the story line. My granddaughter is entering junior high and she enjoyed the story line as well. She lives in Florida and is familiar with the burrowing owls mentioned in the story.

I liked the book because of al of the things mullet fingers did. I gave this book five stars because it was a very exciting and good book that I enjoyed. I would recommend this book for people who like unfortunate events because of what mullet fingers did!!!

Excellent audio book read by Chad Lowe, Rob's brother. He does a great job of adding character to the reading. I used this in my 6th grade class and they enjoyed it. Overall, well worth the price.

I'm reading this now to my 11 year old son. We always read together, but he is at an in-between age where its sometimes hard to find things that interest him. This one does the trick. There is almost always a laugh-out-loud moment each night, and the story is holding both our attention. It is nice because it does not talk down to the kids, and has great character development and setting -- well its Carl Hiaasen after all. My son could easily read it himself, but then I would miss out!

Very interesting and exciting! - Nicholas 10 years old

Fun easy read I will read more of Carl Hiaasen books.

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