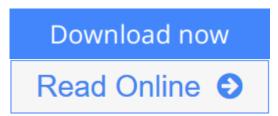


The Iron Giant

By Ted Hughes



The Iron Giant By Ted Hughes

An iron giant saves the world in this contemporary classic.

A mysterious creature stalks the land, eating barbed wire and devouring tractors and plows. The farmers are mystified—and terrified. And then they glimpse him in the night: the Iron Giant, taller than a house, with glowing headlight eyes and an insatiable taste for metal. The hungry giant must be stopped at any cost.

Only a young boy named Hogarth is brave enough to lead the Iron Giant to a safe home. And only Hogarth knows where to turn when a space-bat as big as Australia, hungry for every living thing on Earth, darkens the sky.

First published in 1968, Ted Hughes's classic tale is a powerful tribute to peace on earth—and in all the universe. Of it Madeleine L'Engle wrote, "How grateful we should be for Ted Hughes's brilliant The Iron Giant. It speaks to all ages, and we need its message even more now." Philip Pullman called it "so gripping that when you begin to read it aloud, everyone stops to listen, young children and old people alike." Whether you think of it as a science fiction fantasy or a modern fairy tale or a tall-tale parable for today, you will never forget it.



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The Iron Giant By Ted Hughes Bibliography

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• Binding: Paperback

• 96 pages



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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

A huge, mysterious iron man stands at the top of a cliff, surveying the ocean. His eyes glow white, red, infrared. Then, he lifts one enormous foot and steps out into nothingness. Crraaasssssh! His head, arms, legs, ears, hands all break off as he tumbles onto the rocks below. The end of the story? No, it's only the beginning of this modern parable of peace in the universe. The Iron Giant has an insatiable appetite for barbed wire, tractors, and rusty chains. While farmers and townspeople run around trying to stop him, destroy him, capture him, only one boy understands what must be done. Meanwhile, an even bigger threat hovers over the land, in the shape of an evil-looking space-bat-angel-dragon. How will the people of the world survive the impending doom?

Ted Hughes, poet laureate of England, first wrote this compelling tall tale in 1968. Clearly, the need for its message of peace has not diminished in the decades since. Simple, repetitive sentences carry the mesmerizing spirit of traditional fairy tales. And Andrew Davidson's black-and-white illustrations, with their menacing air and timeless appeal, drive the point home in vivid style. (Ages 8 and older) -- Emilie Coulter

Review

- "A tall-tale hero in a parable for today. The author's intensely felt theme and his invention of dramatic details make this brief piece of fiction high-spirited and entertaining."
- --The Horn Book
- "A clever, inventive fantasy of timely appeal to children."
- --Booklist
- "Written with such great gusto, with such vivid precision, that children will sit spellbound in their ringside seats."
- --Publishers Weekly
- "A great book to start up a family reading tradition. Irresistible."
- --Boston Phoenix
- "Reckoned one of the greatest of modern fairy tales."
- --The Observer (England)
- "A thrilling and unforgettable tale, magnificently told."
- --Trade News (England)
- "Hughes has never written more compellingly...with linguistic tact and imaginative power to achieve something of possible enduring consequence."
- --The Times (England)
- "Riveting."
- -- The Tablet (England)
- "Brilliant."
- -- The Listener (England)

From the Inside Flap

A mysterious creature stalks the land, eating barbed wire and devouring tractors and plows. The farmers are mystified-and afraid. And then they glimpse him in the night: the Iron Giant, taller than a house, with glowing headlight eyes and an insatiable appetite for metal. Where has he come from? Nobody knows. How was he made? Nobody knows. What they do know is the Iron Giant must be stopped.

Only a young boy named Hogarth is brave enough to lead the Iron Giant to a safe home. And only Hogarth knows where to turn when the earth needs a hero--a "giant hero--like never before...

First published in 1968, Ted Hughes's classic tale is a powerful tribute to peace on earth -- and in all the universe.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Rolanda Parker:

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Jody Vinson:

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Pedro Gonzales:

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