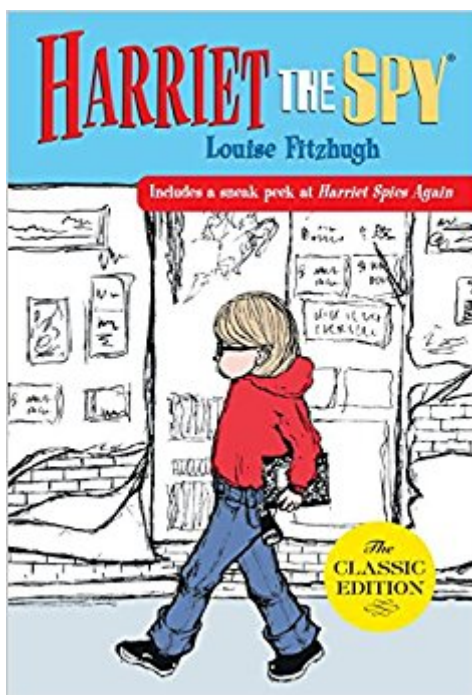


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# Harriet The Spy



## Synopsis

Harriet M. Welsch is a spy. In her notebook, she writes down everything she knows about everyone, even her classmates and her best friends. Then Harriet loses track of her notebook, and it ends up in the wrong hands. Before she can stop them, her friends have read the always truthful, sometimes awful things she's written about each of them. Will Harriet find a way to put her life and her friendships back together?

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0760 (What's this?)

Paperback: 320 pages

Publisher: Yearling (May 8, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0440416795

ISBN-13: 978-0440416791

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.7 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 325 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #5,454 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #45 in [Books > Children's Books > Mysteries & Detectives](#) #136 in [Books > Children's Books > Classics](#) #1182 in [Books > Reference](#)

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Ages 8-12. Thirty-two years before it was made into a movie, *Harriet the Spy* was a groundbreaking book: its unflinchingly honest portrayal of childhood problems and emotions changed children's literature forever. Happily, it has neither dated nor become obsolete and remains one of the best children's novels ever written. The fascinating story is about an intensely curious and intelligent girl, who literally spies on people and writes about them in her secret notebook, trying to make sense of life's absurdities. When her classmates find her notebook and read her painfully blunt comments about them, Harriet finds herself a lonely outcast. Fitzhugh's writing is astonishingly vivid, real and engaging, and Harriet, by no means a typical, loveable heroine, is one of literature's most unforgettable characters. *School Library Journal* wrote, "a tour de force... bursts with life." *The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books* called it "a very, very funny story." And *The Chicago*

Tribune raved, "brilliantly written... a superb portrait of an extraordinary child." --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

A New York Public Library's 100 Great Children's Books 100 Years selection "This is the book that made me want to be a writer. [Harriet] was the first fictional female character I ever came across who privileged her own truth above the expectations put on her as a little girl." — Anna Holmes for Bookish.com "I don't know of a better novel about the costs and rewards of being a truth teller, nor of any book that made more readers of my generation want to become fiction writers. I love the story of Harriet so much I feel as if I lived it." — Jonathan Franzen, author of *Freedom* and *The Corrections* "Harriet the Spy bursts with life." — School Library Journal "The characterizations are marvelously shrewd." — The Bulletin

I've never seen my daughter react like this to a book, but she was crazy about *Harriet the Spy*. She would listen for as long as I was willing to read, and we're now on to the sequels. I like it because it's real literature and doesn't talk down to kids at all. There's challenging vocabulary, and some fairly intense emotional scenes. I enjoyed reading it as much as my daughter, and we're now taking off on a journey through the classics. What a great beginning!

I didn't realize what an impact this book had on my life. I think this book is responsible for my love of writing as I started keeping a journal when I was 11. When I re-read it, I found it to be so much more than a girl who spied on people and kept notes. It is about the struggles of a writer, who has to overcome rejection, abandonment, and self doubt. I thought Harriet was a well formed character, and her world is very interesting. If you are a writer, read it. If you have a child, I would strongly recommend it.

Harriet loves to write down everything in her notebook. Some of it is nice. Some of it is not-so-nice. And then Harriet loses her notebook. And then Harriet loses all her friends. You don't often find a children's story with the emotional resonance of *Harriet the Spy*.

My son liked this book it wasn't his favorite but it kept him entertained, definitely is for an adventurous personality I would recommend to 10 to 12.

One of my childhood favorites. A joy to pass on to my granddaughter

One sleepless night I came across the movie "Harriet the Spy" on cable. I watched part of it but was inspired to re-read one of my favorite books from my childhood. I didn't have a copy any longer so I downloaded the Kindle edition so I could start reading immediately. I still love it! What a great character, all the characters are wonderful. And it's a good morality tale as well. I love the 70's vibe it really brings me right back to my childhood. I'm so glad I re-read Harriet the Spy!

This is one of my all time favorite stories for children. It's the story of a girl who is not a girly girl and her adventures. I love this to encourage kids to make their own way. Great for my classroom library.

My kid loves it. Laughs his head off at Harriet's personality. Language is a bit dated in places/and seems perhaps a bit too complex for her ostensible target audience? I dunno, maybe it's intended for a bit older than mine. But at any rate, he loves it and I've enjoyed reading it with him.

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