



The Witches by Roald Dahl
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The story is about real witches that dress in ordinary clothes, have ordinary jobs and look like 'normal people'. The grand high witch hates all children and wants to make them disappear by using a special formula that turns children into mice, unless that is, the boy and his grandmamma can stop the grand high witch and her witches!

The main characters of *The Witches* are the boy and the grandmamma. I felt like the boy and grandmamma were believable, because she was able to explain throughout the story that she had had experiences with witches, and the relationship between the boy and his grandmamma were I felt trustable but also fuelled the boy's imagination. The challenge the boy had to overcome was to recognise a witch and the characteristics of one.

The boy and grandmamma went to go on a holiday but then they found out that they were staying in the same hotel as the witches and the grand high witch. The boy wanted to stop them. I think my favourite character in *The Witches* was the boy because he was very brave and had great skill as he adapted from a boy into a mouse. Even as a mouse he was determined to destroy the witches.

I feel I can relate to the boy because I know what it is like to persevere just like he had to when he had to go and find his grandmamma when he was a mouse and the dangers he faced doing that, not just by the witches.

I liked this book because it showed how his grandmamma helped him through the grief of his mum & dad's tragic death by focusing him on a tale of the witches that wanted to have all children disappear! I also liked it because it showed how the boy showed strength of character in wanting to save all the children from the witches. Finally, I liked it because it showed great love for his grandmamma.

My favourite part of the book was when the boy poisoned the soup by putting delayed mouse maker 86 in the witches' soup and all the witches turned into mice. It made me laugh

out loud!

I would recommend *The Witches* because I love Roald Dahl and how he tells a story. He makes you believe in the characters by how he describes them in detail. I also think it has some really good themes such as love and kindness, kindness to Bruce when he was turned into a mouse, and love and trust in his grandmamma who would do anything to protect him even when he became a mouse himself. I also think it addresses some scary issues such as death, which can be difficult to understand and was very sad to read.

I wouldn't recommend this book to anyone who scares easily though as the witches do come across as frightening at times. The mask the grand high witch wears shows how evil and unpleasant she really is.