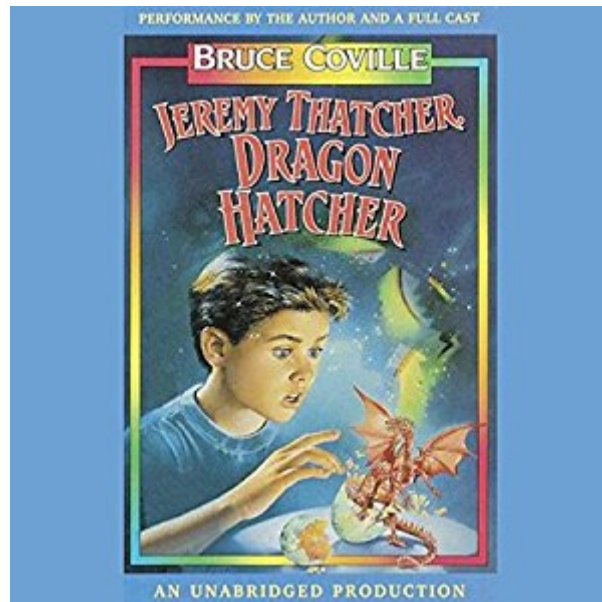


The book was found

Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Hatcher



Synopsis

When Jeremy Thatcher stumbles into Mr. Elives' magic shop, he leaves with a small marbled dragon's egg. When it hatches, Jeremy's wildest dreams take wing. "Includes an author's note."

--This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 2 hours and 36 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

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Audible.com Release Date: February 26, 2010

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

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Customer Reviews

For kids that are too young for the complex "Harry Potter" series, and yet interested in fantasy stories, then Bruce Coville's Magic Shop books might be the thing to hook them up with. Each book is based on a basic premise: a young child with the usual kid problems (home trouble, bullies, crushes, angry teachers, etc) stumble across Mr Elives' Magic Shop, and leave with an unusual purchase that creates more trouble for them, but ultimately teaches them important lessons. In this case, Jeremy Thatcher escapes two bullies, the resentful nature of his art teacher and the unwanted affections of Mary Lou by ducking into the Magic Shop, where Mr Elives gruffly allows him to take home a strange glistening sphere with a sheet of mysterious instructions - it would seem Jeremy is about to hatch a dragon's egg! With the tiny dragonlet Tiamat born, but growing steadily by the day, Jeremy gains more confidence against the problems in his life, as well as more creative flair with the inspiration that Tiamat magically places in his mind's eye. Obviously, a baby dragon in the house is not as easy as it sounds, and even though only Jeremy can see her, Tiamat is still able to manipulate circumstances around her with her fiery breath. But Tiamat must eventually return home to her own world, and along with the mysterious, beautiful Miss Priest and Mr Elives, Jeremy

participates in the ritual to send her to the "dragon-world". Despite the loss however, Jeremy has found a new outlook on life, had old friendships tested and new ones forged, and come to understand a spiteful teacher better.

One of my librarian friends highly recommended this book; saying it was one of her favorites from childhood. And so far, most of her reading suggestions have been great reads, so I dove in to this expecting a funny and cute adventure between a boy and his dragon. And while that IS what I got, I can't help but feel a tad confused (but more on that in a second). A young, artistic sixth grader named Jeremy is just trying to survive school, including avoiding Mary Lou--the girl who has a crush on him, and dealing with a mean art teacher who seems to hate Jeremy for unknown reasons. One day, while trying to escape a gang of bullies, Jeremy comes upon a strange magic shop, where he purchases a beautiful, color changing orb. Said orb turns out to be a dragon's egg, and from then on, Jeremy must take up the task of raising a precocious dragon that, while loyal and loving to Jeremy, causes mischief at every turn, and grows larger by the day. Will Jeremy be able to keep the dragon a secret? And what will he do when he eventually has to let Tiamat go? First, let's get the good out of the way. This book is actually part of a series, in which all the books revolve around the mysterious magic shop in some way. But apparently, each book can stand well enough on its own that you don't have to have read the others. (Though, I'm now interested to check them out.) Save for the art teacher, the characters are all pretty likeable, especially the dragon, Tiamat, who speaks to Jeremy telepathically, not in words, but in colors and pictures. Said bond ultimately helps inspire Jeremy to make his artwork even better.

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