

The Meanest Doll in the World (The Doll People)

By Ann M. Martin, Laura Godwin, Brian Selznick



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Annabelle Doll and Tiffany Funcraft are two dolls who have been best friends since they met in Kate Palmer's house at 26 Wetherby Lane. In this sequel to The Doll People, they hitch a ride in Kate's backpack and find themselves in the biggest adventure of their lives, a day at school! But when an attempt to return home lands them in the wrong house, they're in far deeper trouble than they imagined. Along with a host of new doll friends, they also encounter Mean Mimi, the wickedest doll of all. Mean Mimi is mean-really mean-and she's determined to rule all of Dollkind or else destroy it. Will the world ever be safe for dolls again? In this masterfully plotted sequel, Ann M. Martin and Laura Godwin, with the help of Brian Selznick's ingenious black-and-white illustrations, take the reader on another nonstop adventure from a doll's eye view!

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 3-6-In this sequel to The Doll People (Hyperion, 2000), Annabelle Doll and her best friend, Tiffany Funcraft, take an inadvertent ride to a human school in a backpack and end up in a house where most of the dolls live in terror of Mimi, a princess doll of small stature but with a diabolical nature. They help the dolls but earn the enmity of Mean Mimi, who manages to sneak back to their house with them. After she sows seeds of discord among the Doll and Funcraft families, her destructive streak leads to her own downfall. Intriguing new characters, plenty of adventure, a rift in the friendship between Annabelle and Tiffany, and a truly evil nemesis will keep the pages turning, whether readers have read the first book or not. The pen-and-ink illustrations, which start at the endpapers and appear on almost every page, are nothing short of brilliant. They complement and extend the story, following it faithfully but adding deliciously to the humor and drama. This fantasy is destined to be a favorite for years to come.

Eva Mitnick, Los Angeles Public Library

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From **Booklist**

Gr. 5-8. It was exciting when the 100-year-old, dollhouse-dwelling Doll Family met the modern, "real pink plastic" Funcrafts in *The Doll People* (2000), a thoroughly charming exploration of the fantasy that dolls are secretly alive. In this action-packed sequel, things heat up even further after Annabelle Doll and her best friend Tiffany Funcraft dive into the human girl's backpack and get hauled off to school. They end up in the wrong kid's backpack and in the home of the meanest doll in the world! Will they bravely take on Mean Mimi, who is determined to expose the sacred secret of dollkind? And, how will they get home? Selznick's pencil drawings are winningly expressive, and the clever title-page progression, spelling out "The Meanest Doll in the World" in several pages, is not to be missed. There are inspiring moments of fortitude here as the dolls show readers how to live with integrity and without fear. Though the authors provide background info, readers will want to start with the first novel. *Karin Snelson Copyright* © *American Library Association. All rights reserved*

About the Author

Laura Godwin, also known as Nola Buck, is the author of many picture books for children, including *What the Baby Hears, Central Park Serenade, Barnyard Prayers, The Flower Girl, Little White Dog* and *Christmas in the Manger.* Born and raised in Alberta, Canada, she now lives in New York City.

Brian Selznick is the author and illustrator of the *New York Times* best-selling *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*, winner of the 2008 Caldecott Medal and a National Book nominee. He has also illustrated many other books for children, including *Frindle* by Andrew Clements, *Amelia and Eleanor Go for a Ride* by Pam Mu oz Ryan, and *The Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins* by Barbara Kerley, which received a 2001 Caldecott Honor. Brian lives in Brooklyn, New York, and San Diego, California.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Thomas Carroll:

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Jonathan Baker:

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