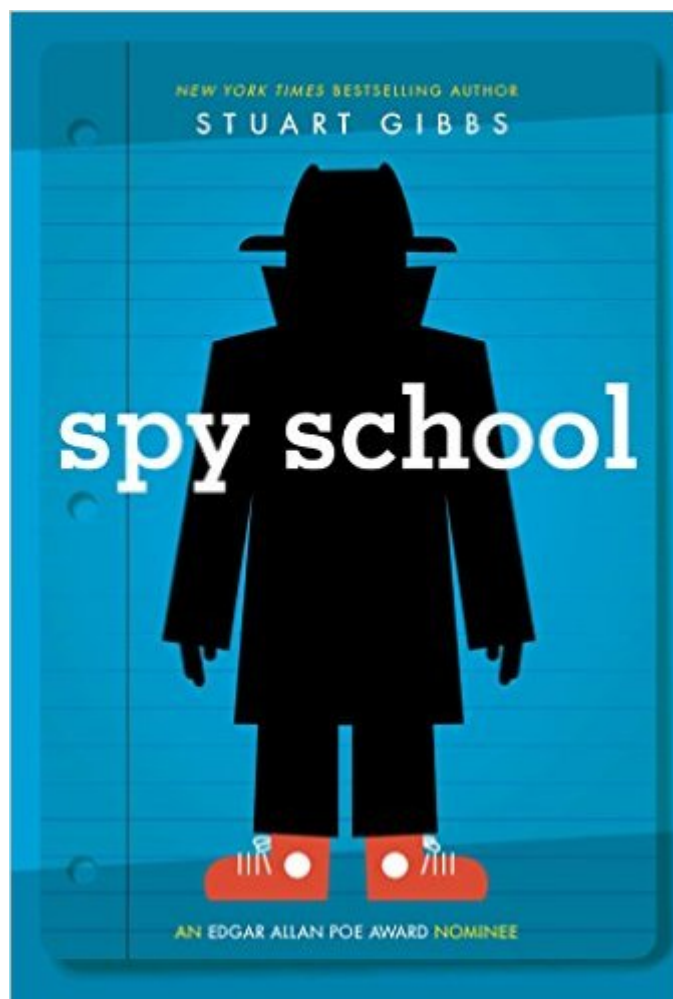


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# Spy School



## Synopsis

Can an undercover nerd become a superstar agent? Ben Ripley sure hopes so—and his life may depend on it! Ben Ripley may only be in middle school, but he's already pegged his dream job: C.I.A. or bust. Unfortunately for him, his personality doesn't exactly scream "secret agent." In fact, Ben is so awkward, he can barely get to school and back without a mishap. Because of his innate nerdiness, Ben is not surprised when he is recruited for a magnet school with a focus on science—but he's entirely shocked to discover that the school is actually a front for a junior C.I.A. academy. Could the C.I.A. really want him? Actually, no. There's been a case of mistaken identity—but that doesn't stop Ben from trying to morph into a supercool undercover agent, the kind that always gets the girl. And through a series of hilarious misadventures, Ben realizes he might actually be a halfway decent spy—if he can survive all the attempts being made on his life!

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 740 (What's this?)

Series: Spy School

Paperback: 320 pages

Publisher: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers; Reprint edition (April 2, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1442421835

ISBN-13: 978-1442421837

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.9 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (175 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #6,939 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #73 in [Books > Children's Books > Mysteries & Detectives](#) #509 in [Books > Children's Books > Action & Adventure](#) #543 in [Books > Children's Books > Humor](#)

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

If you want an overview of the book, you can read the synopsis or some of the other views. I am just letting other parents know that there are words such as "da--" and "a--" that are thrown in casually throughout this book. If you don't mind your kids reading it, and then just as casually, saying those words, then no worries. But as decent and fun as the storyline might be, I don't want my 8 or 12

year-old thinking those words are okay to be carelessly (or carefully) thrown around. I can't understand why the author feels they are necessary to the story; it would have worked just as well without them, and much better for me.

I read this to my 9 yr old, who LOVES any spy stories and he said this is one of his favorites. We are now reading Spy Camp (the sequel to Spy School). My only complaint is the cursing...I could skip over the words since I was doing to reading, but I would not recommend it for young children if they are reading it themselves. It is beyond me why they feel the need to put that kind of language in children's literature!

This book is awesome!! It starts out when this man, Alexander Hale, shows up at this boy named Ben's house after school. Alexander goes on to tell Ben about Spy School. He leaves, and then arrives at Spy School. Then, there is an attack at the school. The rest of the book is up to you. Go, read it!!!PARENTS, BEWARE!! There is a a-- or a f--- thrown in there. Just saying. Stuart Gibbs could of written this without those words in this book, It would have made it as good or better. Just as long as you have told your kids not to say them or you don't mind those words thrown around.Final thoughts: Overall, 5 out of 5 stars. Stuart really did it this time. I can not wait for Spy Camp to come out. Go, read it!! Also, great price. Goodness, \$5 is a SUPER bargain considering most kindle books are \$10

I would have rated this book highly for the story. I don't think kids in the age range of this book need to read "Damn", "ass"and "hell". I actually asked my daughter if she wanted more in the series and she said she thought the language was inappropriate for her age (she's 10). I don't consider her particularly sheltered or anything, but even she noticed how frequent it was in the book. Too bad, ruined an otherwise neat book.

Spy School is a fun read, full of quirky characters and enough action to make sure that nobody is putting this book down until it's over. Stuart Gibbs has a great talent for combining action, complex plots, and humor. We saw it in Belly Up, and the same style is present here. This is a very well plotted and paced mystery that doesn't talk down to its pre-teen/teen audience. The writer includes some impressive vocabulary, and you really have to pay attention if you're going to follow what's going on. This reads like an action thriller made for the big screen, with an unexpected dash of humor that will have you chuckling aloud along with young Ben Ripley.Ben is a very believable

character, and while the author has placed him in an unbelievable position, his dialogue is authentic and witty. Lest the girls feel left out, Erica is a perfect counterpart to Ben. She's the one with the mad spy skills, and it's fun to see her rescue him again and again. Ben takes it all with a grain of salt. He comes across as a young man quite comfortable in his own lack of skill, and the crush he has on Erica makes their interactions very entertaining. This has all the makings of a great series, and it will be fun to see how their relationship progresses as they each learn to appreciate the other's unique talents. This is a very entertaining read that is sure to appeal to young fans of adventure fiction. There is lots of violence, but none of the graphic sort. Everything occurs out of scene, and is almost, but not quite cartoon-like. A great choice for readers grades 5-8.

Bought this at school book fair. My son is enjoying reading it but told me today that it has bad words in it. I was surprised to hear this and thought I should let other parents know that this book uses the a-- word and the d--- word. I now read that there is another parent complaining of this also. Why would an author use such language for a book written for children to read?

Fun kids book. Both my 9 and 11 year olds loved it. I didn't find it as great as they did, but I'm not the target audience for the book. Some of the reviewers were upset about the language, I noticed the word a\*\* once, which I wouldn't have expected in a book for 8-12 yr olds. Maybe there were more words that I didn't notice but one use of a\*\* didn't quite qualify for all that controversy.

This is a terrific book. It's suspense filled and has great, relatable main characters. I flew through the book because I couldn't wait to see what happens! Best of all, the book is truly funny. I greatly enjoyed this read.

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