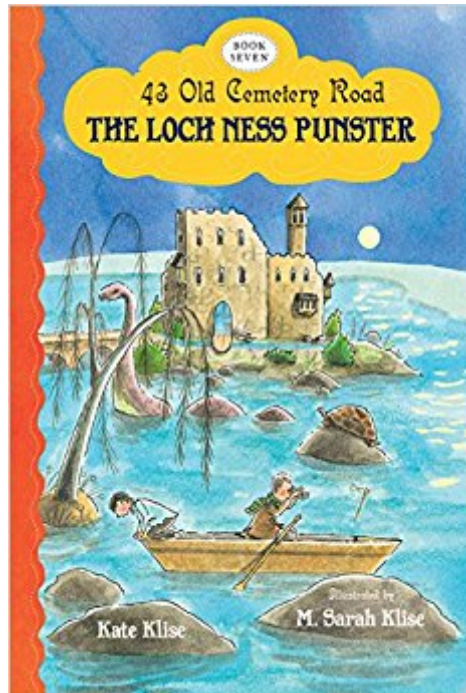




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The Loch Ness Punster (43 Old Cemetery Road)



Synopsis

In the seventh and final installment of the popular 43 Old Cemetery Road series, twelve-year-old Seymour Hope has inherited a castle in Loch Ness, Scotland. It could be the perfect summer vacation spot for Seymour and his parents, Olive C. Spence and Ignatius B. Grumply. But Iggy wants nothing to do with the castle. Why? Because it was owned by his uncle Ian, a world-famous psychiatrist and the world's worst punster. So Iggy stays home to write, and Seymour and Olive set off for Scotland—each with a secret.

Book Information

Series: 43 Old Cemetery Road (Book 7)

Paperback: 144 pages

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Mysteries & Detectives

Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

Customer Reviews

Gr 4-6 "When author Ignatius P. Grumply first moved into the Spence Mansion, he came across two very unlikely writing collaborators: an abandoned preteen, Seymour Hope, and Olive, the ghostly former inhabitant of the house. In this outing, the death of Ignatius's uncle Ian sends Seymour and Olive to Scotland to check out the castle Seymour's just inherited. Meanwhile, Ignatius copes with an expensive missing tortoise and a visitor: the ghost of Uncle Ian. Told entirely through letters, instant messages, drawings, and other ephemera, this sweetly spooky romp will have reluctant readers and bookworms chuckling. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

Kate Klise is the author of many punny and funny middle grade novels, including all of the books in the popular 43 Old Cemetery Road series. She has also written a number of picture books and young adult novels. Ms. Klise lives in Norwood, Missouri. For more information about Kate, visit www.kateandsarahklise.com. Sarah Klise illustrates picture books and middle grade novels with a graphic twist. She also teaches art to children and adults in the Bay Area in California. For more information about Sarah, visit www.kateandsarahklise.com.

Great reading for your child. Takes you on adventure and intrigues.

My granddaughter has the whole series. Just great. She loves them. Started when she was about 9 years old.

Even though my grandson is on the older end of the recommended 9 to 12 years old level, he enjoyed this book for its silliness and for the 'challenge' of figuring out the puns, jokes and double meanings to names and places. A business man is called Macon Deals and so it goes with everyone and everything. The book is written with lots of illustrations, messages in letter form or message types and even newspaper pages. The only problem is that at some points the print does become very small. It was nice to see letters used instead of the ubiquitous technology. Even if you haven't read the other books in the series, this can be understood right away. There are no secrets and everyone and events are explained. This is a good book for either reading out loud to a child or for anyone older (even much older) to read).

I was unfamiliar with this series before reading this book, but my son, 7, is an avid reader who loves adventure stories and kid-based mysteries. This one was right up his alley. Clever writing, and a fun totally unique style, tells the story with newspaper reproductions, postcards, letters and illustrations, as well as traditional text, adding visual interest and stimulating young readers. The storyline was very much in the Goosebumps vein, though I thought this was better written. The kids solving the supernatural-ish mystery are spunky and smart, rather than snarky and annoying and the entire thing was perfect for a second grader. He was into the story from start to finish and can't wait to read more. I immediately ordered the other books in the series.

This delightful book is the seventh in the series. This book is about a twelve year old Seymour Hope who lives in Ghastly, Illinois with his parents and eccentric Olive, a ghostly relative. He inherits a

Scottish castle near Loch Ness, Scotland. Seymour travels with Olive and a hundred year old turtle named Mr Poe to see his inheritance. There is a pet napping and a corporation who wants to build Loch Vegas on the land. This book is told in letters, illustrations, telegrams, newspaper articles, drawings and instant messaging. Younger inexperienced readers might be confused by the varying styles in storytelling while older experienced readers might enjoy a literary challenge. This light hearted book in the series will be enjoyable to those who want to laugh, smile, and enjoy reading. This book would be perfect addition to any classroom, children and or school library.

This reader had not previously seen the 43 Old Cemetery Road books, and found it to be an unexpected delight. Punny and witty, the names of characters are silly (Carrie N. Haggis - restaurant manager, Gareen Teed - insurance salesman, etc), and kids will find them funny. It's the story of Seymour, who is a young boy being brought up by Iggy (Ignatius Grumpy) and Olive Spence (a ghost and ghost writer). He ends up inheriting a castle right on Loch Ness, and a shady dealer wants to purchase it for a steal. It's an interesting way to tell the story: Olive and Ian (Iggy's recently deceased uncle who left the castle to Seymour) are both ghosts, and they have a specific font so it's really easy to tell which character is talking. It does wrap up several story lines from earlier books, so the backstory for that is missing here, but it doesn't take away from the enjoyment of the existing story. The storyline unfolds mostly through newspapers, clippings, airline tickets, and letters, although there are also some conversations. Overall, this book is likely a hit with kids 8-12.

Having absolutely loved the first six books in the 43 Old Cemetery Road series: *Â Dying to Meet You*, *Over My Dead Body*, *Till Death Do Us Bark*, *The Phantom of the Post Office*, *Hollywood*, *Dead Ahead*, and *Â Greetings from the GraveyardÂ* , I had little doubt I would love this one, and I was not disappointed. As our story opens, the writing team (and family) of I. B. Grumpy, Olive C. Spence, and Seymour Hope, residing in the old Spence Mansion at 43 Cemetery Road, Ghastly, IL, receives a telegram informing them that Seymour has inherited a castle on the shores of Loch Ness from his great uncle, Dr. Ian Grumpy, world-famous psychiatrist and world's WORST punster (and in this series that is saying something!) At the very least it seems like a perfect summer vacation for the three of them, but Ignatius refuses to go. It seems he spent many youthful summers there, hated every minute of it, refuses to talk about it, and absolutely refuses to go there now. So a sorrowful Seymour and a mightily ticked-off Olive head for Loch Ness, where they run afoul of the schemes of would-be "Loch Vegas" developer Macon Deals, neither the first, the last, nor the worst of the soul crushing puns contained herein, leaving Ignatius behind in Ghastly, IL, "to write", something he finds

increasingly difficult to do in the chaotic aftermath of chief librarian M. Balm's disastrous Borrow-A-Pet program. Between Seymour's borrowing and subsequent smuggling into Scotland of a pet that turns out to be worth \$10,000.00; Ignatius' repeated failed attempts to obtain pet insurance on said pet from an apparently illiterate insurance salesman, Garren Teed; and the arrival of his uncle's ghost determined to help Ignatius with his "problem", Ignatius is accomplishing nothing,...unless you count beginning to work yourself into having a coronary as accomplishing something. However, just as it's always darkest before it goes pitch black,... I mean, just as it's always darkest before the dawn, things begin to turn. Ignatius finally confronts the root of his grumpiness problem (hint: it isn't really the name), tries something new, and saves the day! As I've mentioned in previous reviews, there have been occasional indications that the Sisters Kline might be starting to run out of ideas. Well, it looks like they agree because this book is being described as the last one. Like most readers I'll be sad to see this series go, but the Klines do not write themselves into any corners here. Should they ever in the future feel their muses sufficiently rejuvenated (and re-punned), they could start right up again. Here's hoping that they do!

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