



Welfy Q. Deederhoth: Meat Purveyor, World Savior

Eric Laster, Max Graenitz (Illustrator)

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"Every page is essential." —project-nerd

Can a homeless teen from New York City, armed mostly with deli foods, save an alien race from extinction? The answer is not what you might think.

Orphan, product of the foster care system, Welfy is a homeless runaway struggling to survive, uncertainly navigating the streets of New York City with his only friend Harlan Mills. Soon after he finds work at Gramercy Deli, he stumbles into an alternate universe where he's believed to be "The One in a dirty apron" prophesied to lead the Brundeedle race out of Woe Time. Understandably, Welfy has his doubts.

"Reach into your apron pocket!" urges Princess Nnnn of the Brundeedles, as Ceparids—a violent species bent on Brundeedle destruction—surround them. More than a little perplexed, Welfy swivels, rears, miraculously avoids getting killed by Ceparid missiles as he fumbles in his apron's front pocket, and pulls out—a slice of baloney.

In the tradition of "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy" comes this heartwarming story of friendship, adventure, and luncheon meats.

Paperback second edition includes bonus material:

- Articles from a genuine Brundeedle news outlet: translate them into English, if you can!
- A preview of the forthcoming Case Files of Erasmus Twiddle, a re-imagining of Eric Laster's first kids' book with new illustrations by Max Graenitz.

Welfy Q. Deederholt: Meat Purveyor, World Savior Details

Date : Published May 2014 by Opsimath Press (first published January 1st 2013)

ISBN : 9780692210314

Author : Eric Laster , Max Graenitz (Illustrator)

Format : Paperback 222 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Childrens, Science Fiction

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From Reader Review Welfy Q. Deederhoth: Meat Purveyor, World Savior for online ebook

Jackie says

A strangely light-hearted story about a young man who is living on the streets after leaving the last and possibly the worst of a series of foster homes. Then he walks into the Gramercy Deli and makes his usual offer, "I'll work and if you like what I do, you feed me." The owner agrees and the pattern continues until Welfy is given a cot in the back and a small salary. Then while carrying a box of canned peas to the basement, Welfy trips and lands in another universe, where he is viewed as "the one" who will bring the Brundeedle people out of the "Time of Woe". Welfy's deli apron functions as a cross between Pandora's box and Felix the Cat's Bag of Tricks--he never knows what will appear when he reaches into its pockets. Sometimes it gives him a weapon and at other times it will provide food. Towards the end of the book Welfy learns some very important things, the truth about his boss, Morton; the story behind the Original Rays pizza shops and why he was put into the foster care system.

Koeur says

<http://koeur.wordpress.com/2014/07/29...>

Publisher: Opsimath

Publishing Date: May 2014

ISBN: 9780692210314

Genre: SciFi

Rating: 3.8/5

Publisher Description: Orphan, product of the foster care system, Welfy is a homeless runaway struggling to survive, uncertainly navigating the streets of New York City with his only friend Harlan Mills. Soon after he finds work at Gramercy Deli, he stumbles into an alternate universe where he's believed to be "The One in a dirty apron" prophesied to lead the Brundeedle race out of Woe Time.

Review: I like the cover art.

Welfy is an orphan whom seemingly stumbles upon a gateway into another universe. There he meets a group of rebel freedom fighters that think he is the answer to a long foretold prophecy. What follows is a fairly robust novel involving his friend and his newfound allies in their fight against the Ceparids. The story line is fun and the plot, uncomplicated. The characters are fairly straight forward and the movement is constant.

The is an engaging novel, built for the young at heart. Anyone at any age can enjoy this lighthearted romp through the multi-verse. I look forward to any subsequent novels in the Welfy multi-verse.

Ian Wood says

This is the complete review as it appears at my blog dedicated to reading, writing (no 'rithmatic!), movies, & TV. Blog reviews often contain links which are not reproduced here, nor will updates or modifications to the blog review be replicated here.

I rated this novel a worthy read.

Welfy Q is a young guy of otherwise almost indeterminate age - maybe twelve, thirteen? He's homeless having lost both his mom and his dad. Some people might call that irresponsible. I call it unlucky, but therein lies a story! He's been in endless foster homes and none of them have worked, but we're offered no explanation as to why that is. He wangles himself a job in Morton's deli and his whole life turns around, not to say 'spins around'. During a trip to the basement carrying a case of Green Giant® peas, he falls, and instead of ending up with a broken neck, as he expected to, he ends up on a different planet where the Good Brundeedles are being slowly wiped out by the evil Ceparids, an insect-like race who spawn from a queen.

Welfy Q discovers, much to his dismay, that he was predicted in this world - as the savior of the Brundeedles. Also, he can pull all manner of useful items from his deli apron pocket, including weapons (which bizarrely revert to ordinary items, such as a bottle of Windex® when he returns to the deli) as well as a choice salami or a slice of bologna. This is relevant, because it misled me as to how this novel would be resolved, and it may mislead you, too! Working with his good friend, homeless Harlan and Harlan's good friend who is a homefule girl whom Harlan met while free-loading from a Star Trek convention in a hotel, Welfy Q, who initially begins his adventure with grave doubts, eventually mans-up and leads (well, kinda leads!) his adoptive alien people to a great victory

This novel is completely off the wall, with one out-of-left-field event or item jumping-up as soon as another has gone away. The most oddball things persisted in happening, with Welfy Q continually wrong-footed by events and discoveries. This novel seems to be an unholy cross between something out of Frances Hardinge's playbook, and something out of the Men in Black comic books. If you like either of those, you'll probably like this, but keep in mind that it's for the pre-young adult generation, so don't expect miracles from it if you're not in that age-range. I am most certainly not in that age-range, but I still rate this novel to be a worthy read!

Maci says

Welfy Q. Deederthoth: World Savior, Meat Purveyor is a really good book. It is about a boy named Welfy Q. Deederthoth, he is homeless and an orphan. Welfy has to scavenge around for food and never knows when his next meal will be. But he has a friend, his friend's name is Harlan and his story is worse than Welfy's. These two boys look out for each other, as much as you can when you live on the streets. Welfy finds some work one day in a deli in exchange for food. He keeps getting food for working during the day until the owner of the Deli, Morton, realizes that Welfy does not have a home so he lets him sleep on a cot in the back of the Deli. Everything is normal until Welfy falls down the basement stairs with a box of peas and ends up in an alien world.

Zoe Mark says

I enjoyed reading this book. It was very interesting to read, never predictable. I have never read anything like it before. Of all the books I have read, this is the first that brought aliens and orphans together. One of the things that I liked was how the book explained how Welfy felt when he discovered the prophecy. It made me aware of the condition of orphans better. The book is about Welfy q. Deederhoth, an orphan, who stumbles into an alien world that is in a state of war. I was very satisfied with the way it ended. I am as happy as a koalabala, which is a very happy creature, with the way it ended. I would recommend this to anyone who wants a book that does not have a typical plot.

DelAnne Frazee says

Title: Welfy Q. Deederhoth - Meat Purveyor, World Savior

Author: Eric Laster

Illustrator: Max Graenitz

Publisher: Independent Book Publishers Association IBPA/Opsimath Press

Published: 12-17-2013

ISBN: 9780985043728

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Pages: 168

Genre: Children's Fiction

Tags: Sci Fi & Fantasy

Overall Rating: Great

Reviewed For: NetGalley

Reviewer: DelAnne

Welfy Q. Deederhoth is a young boy who had lived in thirty-one foster homes in twenty-four months and had had enough. He now lives on the streets of New York. One day he walks into a deli one day looking for work in exchange for food. Each day he returns to Gramercy Deli to work until the day Morton offers him a permanent job and a place to sleep in back of the deli. All goes well until the night he accidentally falls through a portal to an alien world where he is proclaimed the one prophesied about, the savior of the Brundeedle people.

A delightful story that Eric Laster has created to entice readers into a world of another race of people, with their own culture and language. They also are in a fight for survival. Mr. Lassiter touches on the life of homeless youth in New York and unfortunately the darker side of the foster care system. There are many humorous scenes in the story, but there is also few tearful and plenty of action both in New York and the Brundeedle world. My nieces and nephews from ages eight to thirteen all enjoyed this story each for different reasons.

If you are looking for a story to appeal to young readers of various ages then take a good look at Welfy Q.

Deederhoth - Meat Purveyor, World Savior. They are bound to devour it as did my nieces and nephews. I also admit that I too enjoyed the story as well, although not nearly as much as the younger readers did.

Bruce Gargoyle says

Full review at <http://thebookshelfgargoyle.wordpress...> (Sept 4)

I received a digital copy of this title from the publisher via Netgalley.

Ten Second Synopsis:

Homeless teen Welfy gets a job in a deli working for meals before discovering a portal to another planet in the deli's basement. He's going to have to pull something special out of his apron to get out of this in one piece.

This is a wholly original take on the “undiscovered hero” plotline for the upper-middle grade, lower-YA audience. It reminded me of nothing so much as Adam Rex’s *The True Meaning of Smek Day*, not only because of the sci-fi themes, but also because both books feature a fun balance of humour and action with a healthy side order of silliness. Books like this work, in my opinion, because although they contain situations and/or characters that defy logic and disbelief suspension, the characters within the story take the story seriously, and because of this it’s much easier to get sucked in to the plot.

Laster has also managed to create a pretty complex protagonist in Welfy. I appreciated also the poignant moments amongst the alien chaos. The author has really done a good job here providing insight into why life on the street might be preferable for some young people than staying in the foster care system.

There is a fair bit of “Brundeedle language” spoken in certain sections here and I can imagine that some people might find it a bit annoying to read bits of...well, unreadable text. You’ve been warned.

This is going to appeal to sci-fi fans of all ages and those who are prepared to take a chance on a story out of left field. Give it a go if you want to pull something different out of the hat.

Jessica says

A kid friend of mine, who is 11 and a voracious reader, loves this book so much he has carried it back and forth to school in his backpack so that he can read it during his free time. At last count, he had read *Welfy Q. Deederhoth: Meat Purveyor, World Savior* by, Eric Laster, five times. I suspect the count has gone up since then. This middle-grade novel has a wonderful mix of realism and fantasy—perfect for escape reading, with a real kid going through real troubles who finds his own kind of rabbit hole to fall into, taking him in to another world. And though this parallel world has troubles of its own, this novel is filled with funny moments, even funnier language (both linguistic and the turn-of-phrase kind). Adventure, friendship, weird aliens, secret identities, and lots of laughs—this book casts a spell and keeps you wanting more.

Urthwild Darkness Beckons says

Welfy is an orphan failed by the welfare system, who runs away to live in the big apple, New York City, but don't let that put you off.

He decides to relocate and leaves his various children's and foster homes behind to make his own way in the world. I don't think most of us could blame a boy who had lived in 31 homes in 2 years for trying another solution. Bargaining his work skills in exchange for food might not exactly be an ideal way to live his extremely young life, our hero doesn't know it yet, but he is about to embark on a dangerous adventure with Baloney.

Welfy, meets young Harlan, who lives under a bridge and they soon become firm friends. Harlan shows him the ropes and helps him adapt to life on the streets and in exchange Welfy shows Harlan how to dodge deadly missiles which look remarkably like ketchup in an alternate universe.

Aimed at everyone aged over 9 who likes reading about heroes, or even meat products.

I may not be in the target age group that the author was aiming for, but that certainly never stopped me before.

An enjoyable adventure with lots of death and action, I see no reason why this book cannot be enjoyed by both genders of Junior school age. There is a fitting end, but plenty of scope exists if the author decides to give young Welfy another outing, and I hope he does.

Great Fun.

This copy was received from the publisher for an honest review.

Susan says

Welfy runs away from his foster home and meets Harlan another runaway that has been on the streets for a longer time. Welfy searches for food and jobs. He finally gets a job and food at a Manhattan deli. Finally the deli's owner lets Welfy sleep at the deli's food and a small salary. Harlan comes by and gets handouts plus money from Welfy. One evening Welfy trips and lands in another world where he is hailed as the savior of their race according to legend. Welfy tries to tell them that he is not their savior. Running, he finds some stairs that goes up and is returned to his world. He finally tells Harlan and takes him with him to see the Brundeedles. Welfy has discovered that his "dirty apron" has weapons and food to help him in his fight to help to save the Brundeedles. Meanwhile Welfy is trying to find out more about his parents.

I laughed out loud at times throughout the book and felt sad in other parts. If you don't understand the title of the book, you will after reading it. One finds out that home is not necessarily home without love. Home is where you find it, even when you least expect it.

Disclaimer: I received a digital galley of this book free from the publisher from NetGalley. I was not obliged to write a favourable review, or even any review at all. The opinions expressed are strictly my own.

Ken says

I received this book through a Goodreads contest and that was awesome since I do enjoy YA novels. I am a teacher and seem to be on the lookout for novels that will keep students reading. Young males are the toughest to please and this story has a lot to keep them happy. Action, relatable characters and gross out parts. Very much a kids dream come true!! I approve of the activity of decoding included at the end of the book. Let's keep these brains working! I am so glad I was given the opportunity to read this novel.

Chime Library says

I really enjoyed reading Welfy Q Deederholt: Meat Purveyor, World Savior. I thought it was going to be a book that I would suggest to boys, but it is so much more than a boy book. There is plenty of adventure and action for readers, but there is such much "meat" to the story. This book makes you think and takes you into the thoughts of a boy who has never had a place to belong until now. It was heart warming without being sappy and even manages to include a bit of history out New York City. I'm so glad I picked it up.

A Reader's Heaven says

(I received a free copy of this book from Net Galley in exchange for an honest review.)

Welfy Q. Deederholt is a young boy, been through the foster home cycle and has ended up living on the streets of New York. One day, he approaches the owner of the Grammercy Deli and asks for work. He ends up working there day after day, in exchange for a place to sleep and all the meat products he can handle...until that one night when he falls through a portal into an imaginary world - the world of the Brundeedle people, who take him for the long-prophesied saviour of their race...

This book surprised me. I was expecting middle-of-the-road writing with very little to offer in depth - but I was quite happy with the end result.

The author has taken a well-worn plot - the unexpected hero - and given it a fresh breath of life. The writing is witty, clever, fast-paced and very much straight down the line. The reader isn't caught up in a multitude of plots, nor is there anything very hard to take in (except maybe the Brundeedle's language. That takes a bit of getting used to...)

The characters are fun, easy likeable and full of witty one-liners and off-the-cuff humour. There is also another level of writing here for the characters - their understanding of such things as loneliness, the need for family and acceptance, and making your way in the world, regardless of the obstacles.

The world of the Brundeedles is well created, bringing enough of a fantasy element to separate it from what Welfy is used to - but not too different to keep him off-kilter the whole time. He slowly understands his place in this world and makes his way through with a combination of intelligence, knowledge and pure luck!

Highly recommended for kids (probably 10+ years) who are looking for something outside the square. Great

book.

Paul
ARH

Pop Bop says

Deeply Cool

Bottom line - this book is much, much better than it first looks like it's going to be. The whole premise - Welfy the orphan in his deli apron, pulling out "magic" cold cuts to save rebels in a parallel universe - feels precious and headed straight for the farts/boogers/gross sub-genre. Well guess what? The book is well written, exciting, funny and remarkably perceptive and even, dare I say it, tender.

Welfy is an orphan runaway in New York City, taken in by a deli owner who puts Welfy up in the backroom in exchange for odd job work. The deli owner has a sort of Yoda vibe, and Welfy is a resourceful lost soul who just wants a family and stability. When Welfy falls into a parallel world he is hailed as the prophesied one, and this may be the only middle grade book I've read where the creaky convention of a prophesied hero actually works. While Welfy finds adventure, danger and action, he also finds what may be a family and a sense of belonging.

There are lots of strong secondary characters who keep this whole conceit afloat. There are some very perceptive observations about loneliness, longing, and making one's own way - both because Welfy is an observant, smart and thoughtful character and because Welfy meets and interacts with so many well crafted characters along the trail, (see, Si Spielgut, the Baloney King).

There is also a lot of successful funny business. The book is peppered with clever one-liners, funny situations are actually funny, there are some wry and compelling set piece scenes, and the whole enterprise is buoyed up by a very engaging and surprisingly appealing energy. Because the book is so successfully built on character and Welfy's personal quest you almost overlook the world building that supports the alternate universe angle. The Brundeedle's world is well built and allows this book also to work perfectly well as just a solid middle grade sci-fi actioner.

So, this is a happy find. Action, humor, a light touch, clever craftsmanship, and some real feeling make this a well rounded choice for an adventurous younger reader.

Please note that I received a free advance ecopy of this book in exchange for a candid review. Apart from that I have no connection at all to either the author or the publisher of this book.

Bronte says

I'm a grown-up who loves good kids' books, and also books that are both truly funny and have real heart, and *Welfy Q.* fits the bill. I couldn't put down *Welfy*; I needed to know what would happen next! The novel takes

place partly in contemporary New York City and partly in an alternate universe, where Welfy is considered the hoped-for savior of an alien race. In New York, his deli apron protects him from getting food and condiments on his clothing; in the alternate universe, the apron pocket is always mysteriously full at just the right moment—but Welfy never knows if he will pull out a weapon that will help in the battle to save the Brundeedles, or a chunk of roast beef or some other deli food. (Hijinks ensue.)

Author Eric Laster has such a great ear for dialogue, and an original voice and sense of humor. He takes readers on a bit of a celebratory, satirical spin through some of the standard plot points of scifi, and there are lots of fun references to familiar scifi tales.

Yet somehow it manages to not just be a science fiction novel. Don't get me wrong; I have favorite scifi books; I just love the blending of genres, the aligning of a coming-of-age story in New York City with similar issues in the alternate universe...the really funny bits alongside genuine emotion...just get it and read it. It's really satisfying.
