



2008

The Facttracker

Lauren Bangerter

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Eaton, Jason Carter. *The Facttracker*. Illustrated by Constantin, Pascale. Harpercollins Publishers, 2008. ISBN 9780060564353. \$17.89. 260 p.

Reviewer: Lauren Bangerter

Reading level: Intermediate; Young adult;

Rating: Outstanding

Genre: Humorous fiction;

Subject: Truth--Juvenile fiction; Honesty--Juvenile fiction; Humorous stories--Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

Reminiscent of the fantasy worlds created by Norton Juster and Roald Dahl, the city of Traackerfaxx in *The Facttracker* is that magical, yet believable blend of reality with the improbable. *The Facttracker* chronicles the adventure of the just small enough boy through his discovery of the value and power in facts and lies. When the Facttracker's factory explodes, the just small enough boy works with the Facttracker (the man who finds and distributes facts on everything from the popularity of sweet potatoes to the ever changing population of Nebraska) to overcome the Facttracker's long lost evil twin brother, Erstaz. With the Facttracker is trapped and beleaguered by Erstaz's lies, it is up to the just small enough boy to save the day. On his journey he learns that in order to have facts, there must be lies, and in order to have lies, there must be facts -- both of which begin with the seed of truth, and wisdom comes in how one uses them.

The Facttracker is a creative, refreshing, thought-provoking novel which keeps the reader engaged, laughing, and turning pages. Eaton has a knack for story telling, and this story would capture the interest of any age.

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