



2013

Floors (Floors #1)

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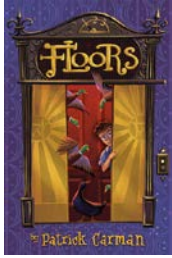
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Author: Carman, Patrick

Title: *Floors (Floors #1)*

Year of Publication: 2011

Publisher: Scholastic Press

ISBN: 9780545255196

of pages: 272

Rating: Significant Shortcomings

Reading/Interest Level: Intermediate; Young Adult

Keywords: Hotels; Puzzles; Eccentrics and eccentricities; Mystery; Adventure

Review:

Leo and his father are maintenance men at the Whippet Hotel. This hotel, created by Merganzer D. Whippet, is unlike any hotel ever built. There are hidden floors, wacky inventions, secret elevators, and rooms that are completely different from one another. Mr. Whippet has gone missing and the hotel manager, Ms. Sparks, is trying to take over the hotel and fire staff loyal to Mr. Whippet. A box appears for Leo from Mr. Whippet with clues that take Leo through the most secret parts of the hotel. When Leo follows through with all the clues, he meets up with Mr. Whippet and is entrusted with the deed to the hotel. Ms. Sparks is fired, but she promises to exact her revenge on the new owner.

While this story was a fun and engaging read there are some shortcomings to the story. Along with Leo's narrative, there was a second story dealing with two characters: Bernard Frescobaldi—a wealthy Italian land baron—and his assistant, Mr. Milton. Supposedly they are researching about Mr. Whippet to find a way to take over the hotel. But both the readers and Leo discover that Mr. Frescobaldi is Mr. Whippet and Milton is Whippet's attorney, George Powell. It begs the question, why would these two characters, when they are alone together, would they call themselves different names or portray different people? It seems like the second narrative of Mr. Frescobaldi was useless and confusing to the story. The second book in the series is entitled *3 Below*.

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