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Coraline by Neil Gaiman

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Author: Gaiman, Neil

Title: *Coraline*

Year of Publication: 2002

Publisher: HarperCollins

ISBN: 9780380977789

of pages: 163

Rating: Excellent

Reading/Interest Level: Intermediate

Keywords: Supernatural; Parents; Adventure; Novels

Review:

Coraline Jones always craved an adventure, though she never expected to find one inside her own house. A small door in her flat leads her to a new world with a house identical to her own, though everything is more picturesque. In the new world, she has caring parents, wonderful food, lots of adventures—all things she lacks in her normal life. Coraline visits the new world frequently, but soon discovers the place is full of dark and evil secrets. Her real parents go missing, a strange creature poses as her 'Other Mother', and she feels trapped inside a world where she is doomed to die. With her real parent's lives on the line, Coraline must risk her life to save them and stop the Other Mother from continuing her wicked ways.

Coraline is a chilling, creepy novel ideal for young readers who aren't quite ready for heavier scares. The plot is well-constructed, the characterization is round and full, and the story resolves with a crisp and clean resolution. Coraline serves as a daring protagonist, prompting the ideals of individuality, bravery, and daringness, which allows the novel to feel extremely creatable. While *Coraline* serves to creep and terrify, the ultimate underlying theme was one of overcoming fears and pushing yourself past your limits. The novel gives the reader much to think about long after the last word has been finished. A must read for old and young alike.

Reviewers Name: Jameson Testi

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