



# The Wolves in the Walls

By Neil Gaiman

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**The Wolves in the Walls** By Neil Gaiman

Lucy hears sneaking, creeping,  
crumpling noises  
coming from inside  
the walls.

She is sure there are  
wolves living in  
the walls  
of her house.

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## The Wolves in the Walls By Neil Gaiman Bibliography

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### Editorial Review

#### Amazon.com Review

Truth be told, Neil Gaiman and Dave McKean's picture book *The Wolves in the Walls* is terrifying. Sure, the story is fairytale-like and presented in a jaunty, casually nonsensical way, but it is absolutely the stuff of nightmares. Lucy hears wolves hustling, bustling, crinkling, and crackling in the walls of the old house where her family lives, but no one believes her. Her mother says it's mice, her brother says bats, and her father says what everyone seems to say, "If the wolves come out of the walls, it's all over." Lucy remains convinced, as is her beloved pig-puppet, and her worst fears are confirmed when the wolves actually do come out of the walls.

Up to this point, McKean's illustrations are spectacular, sinister collages awash in golden sepia tones evocative of the creepy beauty in *The City of Lost Children*. The wolves explode into the story in scratchy pen-and-ink, all jaws and eyes. The family flees to the cold, moonlit garden, where they ponder their future. (Her brother suggests, for example, that they escape to outer space where there's "nothing but foozles and squoosucks for billions of miles.") Lucy wants to live in her own house...and she wants the pig-puppet she left behind.

Eventually she talks her family into moving back into the once-wolfish walls, where they peek out at the wolves who are watching their television and spilling popcorn on slices of toast and jam, dashing up the stairs, and wearing their clothes. When the family can't stand it anymore, they burst forth from the walls, scaring the wolves, who shout, "And when the people come out of the walls, it's all over!" The wolves flee and everything goes back to normal...until the tidy ending when Lucy hears "a noise that sounded exactly like an elephant trying not to sneeze." Adult fans of this talented pair will revel in the quirky story and its darkly gorgeous, deliciously shadowy trappings, but the young or faint of heart, beware! (Ages 9 and older)

--Karin Snelson

#### From School Library Journal

Grade 2-4-Lucy hears sounds in her house and is certain that the "sneaking, creeping, crumpling" noises coming from inside the walls are wolves. Her parents and her brother know "if the wolves come out-, it's all over," and no one believes that the creatures are there-until they come out. Then the family flees, taking refuge outside. It is Lucy who bravely returns to rescue her pig puppet and who talks the others into forcing the animals to leave. Gaiman and McKean deftly pair text and illustrations to convey a strange, vivid story evolving from a child's worst, credible fear upon hearing a house creak and groan. Glowing eyes and expressive faces convey the imminent danger. This rather lengthy picture book displays the striking characteristics of a graphic novel: numerous four-panel pages opening into spreads that include painted people; scratchy ink-lined wolves; and photographed, computer-manipulated images. Children will delight in the "scary, creepy tone" and in the brave behavior displayed by the intrepid young heroine.

Marian Creamer, *Children's Literature Alive, Portland, OR*

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#### From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 3-6. Gaiman's picture book about one little girl's prescient concern for the sanctity of her home is visually realized through collage and other multimedia images that match the sometimes dark, fantastical story, tone for tone. Lucy is the first to hear wolves in the walls of her house, but her family, each of whom seems oblivious to the ambiguity of his or her reassurances, dismisses her worries. Indeed, the wolves do emerge, and the family decamps to the garden, from which Lucy and her "pig-puppet" bravely lead the family's

charge back to reclaim their house from the jam-eating, video-game-playing pack. With the rhythms of an old fairy tale (the end is a new beginning of trouble in the walls), and startling graphics that force readers to look deeply into each scene, this is a book for the twenty-first-century child: visually and emotionally sophisticated, accessible, and inspired by both literary and popular themes and imagery. *Francisca Goldsmith*

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## Users Review

### From reader reviews:

#### **Tyrone Smith:**

The actual book The Wolves in the Walls will bring you to definitely the new experience of reading a new book. The author style to spell out the idea is very unique. In case you try to find new book to read, this book very suited to you. The book The Wolves in the Walls is much recommended to you to see. You can also get the e-book through the official web site, so you can easier to read the book.

#### **Lyman Johnson:**

Spent a free time to be fun activity to try and do! A lot of people spent their down time with their family, or their friends. Usually they doing activity like watching television, about to beach, or picnic within the park. They actually doing ditto every week. Do you feel it? Do you wish to something different to fill your free time/ holiday? Could possibly be reading a book could be option to fill your cost-free time/ holiday. The first thing that you will ask may be what kinds of guide that you should read. If you want to try look for book, may be the e-book untitled The Wolves in the Walls can be very good book to read. May be it could be best activity to you.

#### **Kevin Pinkney:**

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation or go to the outside with them loved ones or their friend. Do you realize? Many a lot of people spent they free time just watching TV, or perhaps playing video games all day long. If you would like try to find a new activity that is look different you can read a new book. It is really fun for you personally. If you enjoy the book you read you can spent the whole day to reading a guide. The book The Wolves in the Walls it doesn't matter what good to read. There are a lot of people who recommended this book. These were enjoying reading this book. Should you did not have enough space to create this book you can buy the e-book. You can m0ore very easily to read this book out of your smart phone. The price is not too expensive but this book possesses high quality.

#### **Haley Berg:**

The Wolves in the Walls can be one of your beginner books that are good idea. We recommend that straight away because this guide has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in terminology, easy to understand, bit entertaining however delivering the information. The article writer giving his/her effort to get every word into satisfaction arrangement in writing The Wolves in the Walls yet doesn't forget the main

position, giving the reader the hottest along with based confirm resource data that maybe you can be among it. This great information can drawn you into new stage of crucial pondering.

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