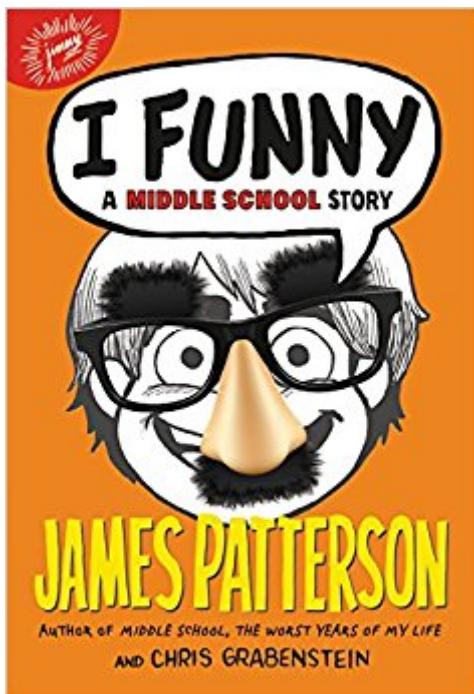


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# I Funny: A Middle School Story



## **Synopsis**

Jamie Grimm is a middle schooler on a mission: he wants to become the world's greatest standup comedian--even if he doesn't have a lot to laugh about these days. He's new in town and stuck living with his aunt, uncle, and their evil son Stevie, a bully who doesn't let Jamie's wheelchair stop him from messing with Jamie as much as possible. But Jamie doesn't let his situation get him down. When his Uncle Frankie mentions a contest called The Planet's Funniest Kid Comic, Jamie knows he has to enter. But are the judges only rewarding him out of pity because of his wheelchair, like Stevie suggests? Will Jamie ever share the secret of his troubled past instead of hiding behind his comedy act? Following the bestselling success of the hilarious Middle School, The Worst Years of My Life, James Patterson continues to dish out the funnies in another highly-illustrated, heartfelt middle school story. (Includes more than 175 black-and-white illustrations.)

## **Book Information**

Series: I Funny (Book 1)

Paperback: 320 pages

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Best Sellers Rank: #25,992 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #58 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Special Needs #72 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Bullies #80 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Performing Arts

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## **Customer Reviews**

Gr 4-7-Jamie Grimm is a funny guy, obsessed with creating and collecting joke material. He studies all of the top comedians and tries out his jokes on everyone, be it his classmates or the customers at his Uncle Frankie's diner. He hopes to enter the Planet's Funniest Kid Comic Contest even though just the thought of it makes him a nervous wreck. Readers learn that humor for Jamie is a

means of survival-things aren't easy for him. He doesn't like to talk about why it all happened, but he had to move to a new city, to live with "the Smileys," his very unfunny aunt and uncle. At Long Beach Middle School, he is treated horribly by the resident bully. Steve Kosgrov is not only a notorious meany, but is also Jamie's new adoptive brother. Steve gets his kicks by locking him out in the cold and leaving him stuck in a sand dune unable to move. Jamie isn't able to move because he uses a wheelchair-he can't walk at all. The grimness of his situation is relieved by two good buddies, his encouraging Uncle Frankie, and his ever-present ability to see humor in every situation. Patterson's tale includes twists and turns that make for an engrossing read. Readers will be on Jamie's side all the way, cheering him on in the comedy contest, and also to win the girl of his dreams. Line drawings are sprinkled throughout, adding more humorous details.-Diane McCabe, John Muir Elementary, Santa Monica, CA (c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Built around the notion of a middle-grade stand-up comedian who delivers jokes sitting down because he is confined to a wheelchair, this tale is written as an extended monologue in which Jamie Grimm (get it?) introduces loyal school friends, his mostly loving adoptive family, and Stevieâ•his new brother, who is also a vicious bully both online and in personâ•then proceeds to savage them all indiscriminately from a talent-contest stage. Playing readersâ•â¢ heartstrings like a banjo, Patterson and Grabenstein also chuck in two girlfriends and a first kiss, hints of a family tragedy strung out until near the end, an uplifting spontaneous routine delivered to the patients of a childrenâ•â¢s rehab center, and, both in the narrative and in the line drawings on almost every page, dozens of gags both classic (Do zombies eat doughnuts with their fingers? No. They usually eat their fingers separately) and not so much (When kids in Grossville say, "Mommy, can I lick the bowl?" their mothers say, "Be quiet, dear, and just flush"). In all, a brimming bucket of ba-da-bing! that hardly needs a celebrity author to crank up the audience numbers. HIGH-DEMAND BACKSTORY: Pattersonâ•â¢s full-court press to capture the attention of every market in the reading public continuesâ•and 25 million books sold for young readers proves itâ•â¢s working. Grades 4-7. --John Peters --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I funny! He funny! Wait, what comes next? Oh, yea. WE FUNNY. This book is a big mixture of sadness and comedy. I would recommend this book to people that are always in the mood for

laughing. Like Jamie Grimm! This boy tells jokes on a wheelchair and he doesn't even fall down with all the laughter he's had at the Hopeless Hotel. I, am goi to read I Even Funniest!

It was a decent book. No complaints. Well, maybe one. the jokes for fine. One or a two I did not get. Well, since this is a book review let's start. It is about a middle schooler named Jamie grim. He never says anything really about his past, and in a book review it spoiled the ending, but I wanted to see it first hand so I got the book. His step brother is an utter jerk. So if you don't like things like that then maybe you should not get this book. My favorite part is the end though. I am not going to be that one review that spoiled the end, so go to a another review if you want that... Or get the book! 

My son, a fourth grader, and I read this book together each night before bed. We both loved it. He loved the bathroom humor - you know the farts, burps, and butt jokes that are so humorous at that age. And he also loved the serious side of the story. When Jamie tells "Cool Girl" about the horrific event that caused him to end up in a wheelchair, we both cried. When Jamie competes to be the funniest kid comic, we both laughed and cheered. I highly recommend this book. It helps children see the good and bad, the funny and tragic, while giving them a wonderful role model in the main character, Jamie.

Good for middle school aged children. It's actually very sad and not all that funny. But, it's a great story.

As an adult I enjoyed the book, but I'm not the intended audience. My middle-school son is and he loved it and is begging for the and one fr his Kindle already. As a librarian specializing in young adult literature, this isn't a classic "Tom Sawyer" but it isn't meant to be. It has great appeal for t's audience and gets them reading. It's a book I will certainly keep several stocked on the library shelves. A side note: I think James Patterson writes stories aimed for this audience bette than his popular adult novels.

This is a great book. It's funny, includes a whole cast of characters, and not everything is perfect for the main character. A great story for middle school aged kids or for someone who wants a laugh. It's a great combination of funny and possible real life.

These books, although I've never read them, are highly entertaining and something that our kids seem to enjoy. I trust their opinions, especially considering the amount of reading that they do, so when I buy a book, it's because I know they'll be re-reading it at least a few times. This book has been in our vehicle, our house, and taken places that we've visited, so I can say that it's a hit.

This book is hilarious! **WARNING: Spoilers!** I funny is about middle schooler Jamie Grimm who is in a wheelchair. My sister is also in a wheelchair, so I can relate. I would recommend this book for kids who liked diary of a wimpy kid, and big Nate. Or kids who are in 4th or 5th that really like to read. I know it is not free, but it is definitely worth it! There are 69 chapters of James Patterson magic!

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