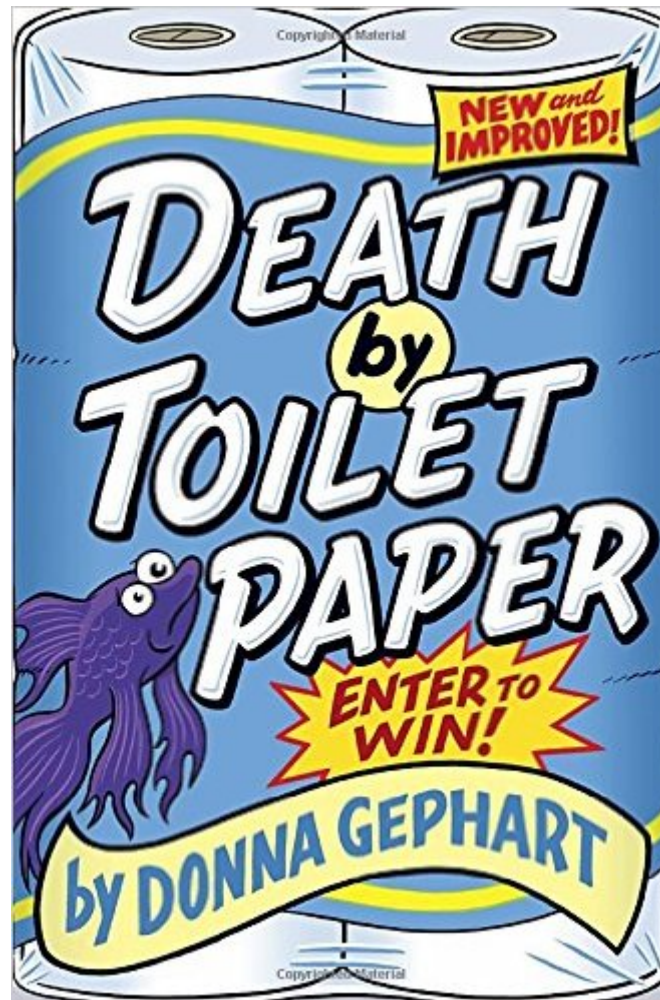


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# Death By Toilet Paper



## Synopsis

Fans of Louis Sachar will welcome the adventures of a contest-crazed seventh grader who uses his wits and way with words in hopes of winning a big cash prize to help his family avoid eviction. Benjamin is about to lose a whole lot more than good toilet paper. If he doesn't make tons of money fast by selling candy bars and winning contests like the Royal-T Bathroom Tissue slogan contest his family will get kicked out of their apartment. Even with his flair for clever slogans, will Benjamin be able to win a cash prize large enough to keep a promise he made to his dad before he died? Or will he lose everything that matters to him? Praise for *Death by Toilet Paper* "Readers can't help but enjoy this heartening book about hanging in there."--Kirkus Reviews "Ben is a character kids will root for."--Publisher's Weekly "Would make a fine classroom readaloud."--The Bulletin

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 790L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 272 pages

Publisher: Delacorte Books for Young Readers (August 5, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0385743998

ISBN-13: 978-0385743990

Product Dimensions: 5.7 x 0.9 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars See all reviews (28 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #730,314 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #183 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Homelessness & Poverty #274 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Religious Fiction > Jewish #682 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Death & Dying

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 7

## Customer Reviews

It is sometimes quite hard to leave characters in their stories once I close the covers of a book. I feel invested in their lives; I have celebrated their successes and have sympathized with their struggles. This feeling of warmth for believable, real characters is exactly what I feel for Benjamin, the protagonist in Donna Gephart's newest novel, *Death by Toilet Paper*. I became engaged in the life of

twelve year-old Benjamin. I didn't want him to worry about the rent his mom couldn't pay. I wanted to run to my bank, make a withdrawal, and send an anonymous envelope to the Epsteins that could solve their dilemma. I didn't want Benjamin to worry about the fact that his mom wasn't making enough money working at Piggy's Pancake House. I wanted to let my school know where they could hire a dependable, hard-working mother as a classroom or library aide. I didn't want Benjamin to fret about his grandfather's forgetfulness. I wanted to comfort Ben and tell him of my own grandmother's struggle with a similar absent-mindedness to put him at ease. That's what incredible books have. Authentic characters. Benjamin is an honest-to-goodness, down-to-earth, amazing-amazing-amazing kid. And I'll bet that every reader knows a kid just like Benjamin. That's why *Death by Toilet Paper* makes an excellent read. I can't wait to book talk Benjamin's story to my eighth graders. In addition to the realistic protagonist and the exciting plot, this book is humorous. There are many snort-worthy sections. I know the exact pages I will read to begin my book talk ... pages 81-83. If these pages can be read silently or aloud without a single chortle, perhaps the reader should check his/her pulse.

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