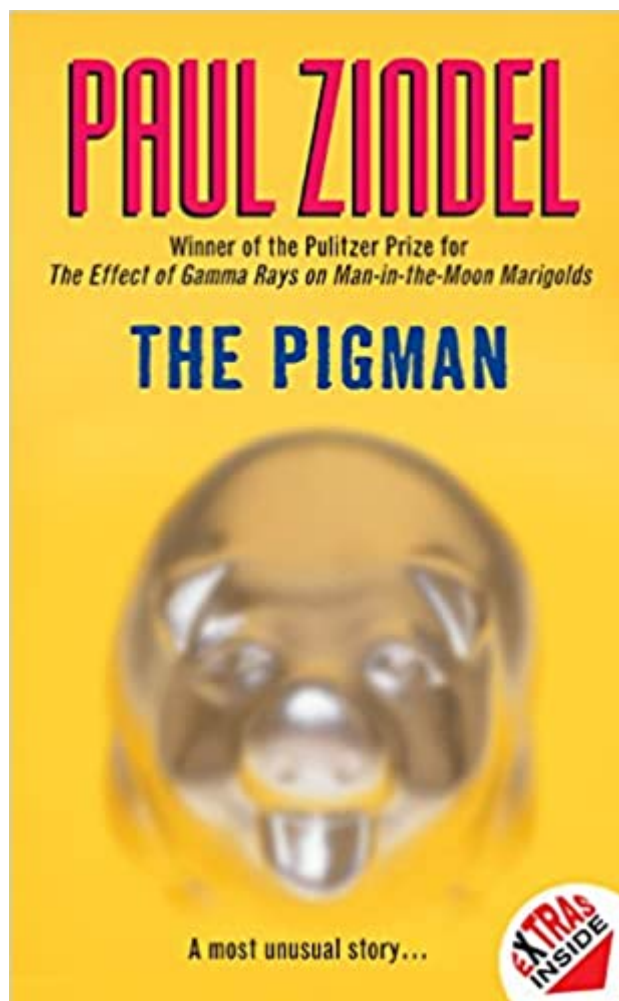




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The Pigman



Synopsis

Join the millions of readers who have discovered *The Pigman*, the beloved bestselling young adult classic from Paul Zindel, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds*. *The Pigman* is the perfect read for fans of modern classics like *The Outsiders* by S. E. Hinton and *Thirteen Reasons Why* by Jay Asher. When high school sophomores John and Lorraine made a prank phone call to an elderly stranger named Angelo Pignati, what starts as a practical joke quickly turns into a friendship that changes all of their lives forever. But when their friendship ends in tragedy, the only way for John and Lorraine to find peace is to write down their friend's story—the true story of the Pigman.

“Headline news—remarkable—Zindel has written a story that will not be denied.”

• Publishers Weekly “An intensely moving story of believably alienated young people.”

• School Library Journal

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

For sophomores John and Lorraine, the world feels meaningless; nothing is important. They certainly can never please their parents, and school is a chore. To pass the time, they play pranks on unsuspecting people. It's during one of these pranks that they meet the "Pigman"—a fat, balding old man with a zany smile plastered on his face. In spite of themselves, John and Lorraine soon find that they're caught up in Mr. Pignati's zest for life. In fact, they become so involved that they begin to destroy the only corner of the world that's ever mattered to them. Originally published in 1968,

this novel by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Paul Zindel still sings with sharp emotion as John and Lorraine come to realize that "Our life would be what we made of it--nothing more, nothing less."

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Starred Review. Grade 8 Up
•In celebration of the 40th anniversary of the publication of Paul Zindel's award-winning novel, *The Pigman* (HarperCollins, 1968), Zindel's son David has produced audiobook versions of *The Pigman* and *The Pigman's Legacy* (Harper, 1980). In the first title, as a result of a phone prank, high school sophomores John and Lorraine become friends with Mr. Pignati (the Pigman), an elderly widower. The conflicted teens feel alienated from everything, but the Pigman's enthusiasm for life soon spills over onto them. John and Lorraine go roller skating with their new friend, and he suffers a heart attack and is hospitalized. The teens have a party at the Pigman's house, and his pig collection and some of his late wife's clothes are destroyed. When Mr. Pignati comes home unexpectedly, he's distraught and feels betrayed by the teens. They try to make it up to him by taking him to the zoo, where he learns that his beloved gorilla, Bobo, has died. This trauma causes the Pigman to have a fatal heart attack. In *The Pigman's Legacy*, John and Lorraine discover that a homeless man is living in Mr. Pignati's abandoned house. Thinking that this is a chance for them to make up for what happened to the Pigman, they try to befriend the surly old man. After to Atlantic City to cheer up the man, they discover that the true legacy of the Pigman is love. Both stories are told in chapters that alternate between John and Lorraine's point of view, narrated by Charlie McWade and Eden Riegel who do an outstanding job of bringing the characters to life. An added bonus is a fascinating interview with Paul Zindel discussing his craft. These remarkable audiobooks, which still offer important messages to today's teens, are a must-have for high school and public libraries.
•Kathy Miller, Baldwin High School Baldwin City, KS END
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I am a mom who decided to read this book, as it was required for my son's 8 grade language arts class. I'm always interested in what he brings home and the very first glance had me hooked. He also enjoyed reading this book and it was an easy read for us both. *The Pigman* is a short story that kids can easily relate to, plus interesting enough to hold their attention. I can see why this book is so popular and is given as a class assignment. I gave *The Pigman* 5 stars because it impressed me while also teaching a lesson too.

A story that reminds us of our mortality, our morality and to live everyday as if it may be your last. It

begs the question that we all ask several times in our life... Why are we here? Reminds us of the days before caller ID and when prank phone calls were a common form of entertainment.

The Pigman is a very thought-provoking book by Paul Zindel. This book is very popular and well liked (as you can tell from the overall rating from other reviews), so it was one of the first books that came to my mind when I was browsing on this website, wondering what book to buy for my kindles. As well as being very thought-provoking, this book is also very sad. One of the main characters, the Pigman (his real name is Mr. Pignati) is a very old and friendly man. Unfortunately, this man dies in the last chapter of this book due to a heart attack, and so the mood of the book changes drastically after that. 'The Pigman' also changes between two views, so the reader always can get an excellent view of what is happening. However, I took the last star off my rating as this book uses very simple vocabulary and has a little bit of inappropriate things not suitable for (in my opinion) 'younger' eyes. Therefore, I would not recommend this book if you are going to sit for an exam or under about 7 or 8. But overall, I would highly recommend this book. Happy Reading! By F.W

Like it is a good book very good message this book has 10 out of 10 recommend it to everyone

This is a really good book. (and the person that goes to school is not named the Pigman) It is about two teens who befriend a lonely older man.

I loved this book. It was a summer reading assignment for me, but then it just ended up being something that I looked forward to reading. I fell in love with Mr. Pignati, he was adorable. I seemed to understand him. I could picture him, a sad little old man with a heart of gold.

This book affected me more than I would've thought when I first picked it up at the age of 12. One of the most understanding looks into the intricacies of teenagers and their relationships with adults.

I read this in high school I am 38 now and still love this book written beautifully R.I.P paul zindel one of the greats

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