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# Lunch Lady And The Cyborg Substitute: Lunch Lady #1





## Synopsis

Serving justice . . . and lunch!Hector, Terrence, and Dee have always wondered about their school lunch lady. What does she do when she isnâ ™t dishing out the daily special? Where does she live? Does she have a lot of cats at home? Little do they know, Lunch Lady doesnâ ™t just serve sloppy joesâ "she serves justice! Whatever danger lies ahead, itâ ™s no match for LUNCH LADY!

#### **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 240L (What's this?)

Series: Lunch Lady

Paperback: 96 pages

Publisher: Knopf Books for Young Readers (June 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0375846832

ISBN-13: 978-0375846830

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.4 x 7 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (73 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #10,844 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #4 in Books > Children's Books >

Comics & Graphic Novels > Manga #195 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of

Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > School #761 in Books > Children's Books > Action

& Adventure

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

### **Customer Reviews**

As a reading tutor I am always looking for high interest books for my students with dyslexia. This book is perfect--it's funny and has a lot of lively pictures of the cafeteria Lunch Lady saving the day, plus the words used are a good mix of mainly easy and with some challenging ones thrown in too. I have a very smart eleven year old student who can only read at the first or early second grade level and he loves this book. It takes him a long time, but not only can he read almost all of it himself, I have to take the book out of his hands at the end of our session because he is completely engrossed.

Obviously, the very best thing about this series is that Krosoczka chose a lunch lady for his

undercover superhero. That made me laugh even before I discovered related details such as weaponry. In a brief scene before the title page (comparable to the scene before the opening credits roll in a movie), we see two bank robbers being stopped by a heroic figure on a motorcycle that has a sloppy joe button. Yep, it's hard to get away when your van is sliding around on a wave of sloppy joe filling. The child characters in the book are a trio of average kids: Hector, Terrence, and Dee. When they are bothered by the school bully, Milmoe, a new substitute teacher saves the day--but there's something very strange about the sub, and soon Lunch Lady is trying to figure out just what he's up to. She is assisted by another lunch lady named Betty, who is like James Bond's gadget guy, Q.The kitchen humor continues with a hidden lab behind a fridge and gadgets made out of things like spatulas, not to mention weapons formed from fish sticks. One of my favorite pages is a view of the spy screens in Lunch Lady's lab, which show what the teachers are doing. For instance, we learn that "Mr. Johnson is reciting poetry" to his class. Of course, the poem he is reciting begins, "Beans, beans, good for your heart..." before trailing off to be completed by amused readers. Considering the title, you will not be shocked to discover that the substitute turns out to be a robot. What's fun to follow is how Lunch Lady figures this out and what she does about it. Meanwhile, our intrepid trio of kids have begun to spy on her. This, of course, allows them to participate in the obligatory climactic fight scene. Lunch Lady herself is a delightful creation. Her cuss words in tense moments are vegetables: "Sweet potato!" and "Cauliflower!" When she tails the villain, she says, "I'm on him like cheese on macaroni!" L.L. is brave and knows some great fight moves, but she is also dedicated to providing school meals--a satisfyingly surreal combination. Like the Babymouse books, Lunch Lady and the Cyborg Substitute has an inherent sweetness. The humor is goofy and lovable, the trio of children are ordinary enough to represent Everyreader, and the fight scenes are tongue in cheek. I'm very happy to see another graphic novel series served up in the children's book cafeteria. There's no mystery meat here: second and third graders are going to eat these up!

Move over Batman. Move over Phantom. This hero lives a little closer to our kids' reality. Enter, the Lunch Lady, cook to the hungry, nutritional guardian for the addicted, and protector of Thompson Brook School!What do you do when a substitute seems out of the ordinary, seems too eager, and too perfect? Homework from a sub alerts the kids to a situation gone amiss, and once Lunch Lady monitors everyone else, a disturbing pattern arises! Is Teacher of the Year worth that much? How does he get the \$ on a teachers salary to build so many robots? Jarrett J Krosoczka has created a marvelous book that breaks the convention that the cafeteria cook is old and crotchety. He packs

this hero with a boiler room, kitchen weapons, and an assistant with an imagination that Mr Popeil never had. I loved this book and highly recommend it to all ages. Tim Lasiuta

Bought this for my newly turned 8 year old since she's gotten into graphic novels and because she likes them it's how I'm encouraging her to do her 20 minutes of reading a day. She reads at a 3rd grade level and although she really enjoyed this book it was too easy for her to read - she finished it in 5-10 minutes so I obviously need to find her something more challenging. Otherwise it's a cute story and my daughter thought it was funny but I would recommend it for a new reader.

"I was just looking at the pictures, but I couldn't help myself from reading some of it." I was thrilled to hear a 7-year-old say. Mean while my son as read it more than 3 times in the 3 days since it arrived. My daughter has read it twice, so it's a winner. This is a delightful way to get my daughter interested in the classics and get her reading on her own. The comic style illustrations let her get a feel for the story with minimal reading, yet feel like she's reading a chapter book. It lets children get a very complex story with less actual reading, while they gain confidence for harder books. The words are not "easy reader" words, but it's still a great way to get into more complex books. Just so you know, I do generally have an optimistic positive bias in life so I only give a 4 star rating if I have a problem with something. I hope that this review is helpful. If it is, please click helpful to let know. It will improve my rating to help me get discounts for reviews in the future.

Very funny. Can't wait to read some of the others. I am a lunch lady and took the book to work for my co-ladies to read. Guess what I am going to be for Halloween! Complete with my fish stick nunchucks and my spatula.

The story line is really cute and it was a great break for some of my struggling readers. My students really enjoyed this, but it's a little easy and predictable to be used for anything more than a fun book to take a break from other reading.

My daughter, a third grader who does not like reading, loved this book. We bought a few other Lunch Lady books and she has enjoyed the series so much she is actually getting into reading the assignments from school. Great book to get your kids reading!

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