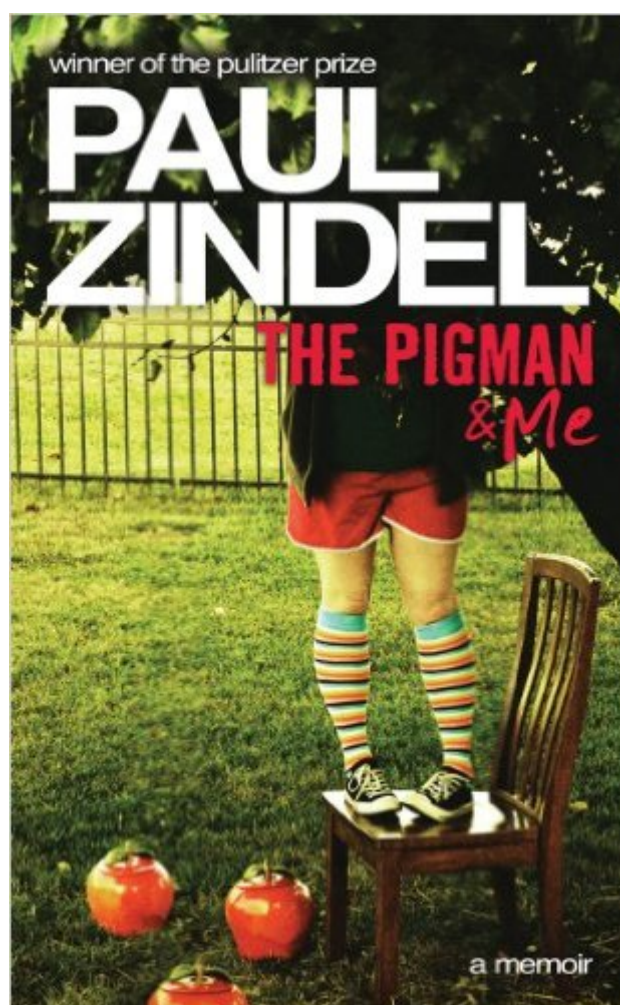


The book was found

The Pigman & Me: A Memoir



Synopsis

This touching and hilarious memoir by Pulitzer Prize-winning author, Paul Zindel, won the Margaret A. Edwards award. "Eight hundred and fifty-three horrifying things had happened to me by the time I was a teenager. That was when I met my Pigman, whose real name was Nonno Frankie." The year Paul Zindel, his sister, and their mother lived in the town of Travis, Staten Island, New York, was the most important time of his teenage life. It was the year he and Jennifer Wolupopski were best friends. It was the year of the apple tree, the water-head baby, and Cemetery Hill. And it was the year he met Nonno Frankie Vivona, who became his Pigman. Every word of his story is true. And *The Pigman & Me* has an added bonus--one crucial piece of information: the secret of life, according to the Pigman.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1040 (What's this?)

Paperback: 179 pages

Publisher: Graymalkin Media (June 9, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1935169300

ISBN-13: 978-1935169307

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 4.2 x 7 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (23 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #448,239 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #51 in [Books > Teens >](#)

[Biographies > Literary](#) #73 in [Books > Teens > Social Issues > Being a Teen](#) #157 in [Books >](#)

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Age Range: 12 - 17 years

Grade Level: 7 - 12

Customer Reviews

Readers of Paul Zindel's young adult novels, especially *The Pigman*, will enjoy reading about the difficulties he and his sister endured growing up with a single mother in New Jersey in the 40's and 50's. After his mother takes in a roommate with 2 young sons, Zindel is exposed to the boys' grandfather, who becomes a surrogate father, a grown-up playmate, an inspiration, and a support to him as he struggles with his coming of age, his mother's strange schemes, and his own insecurities. As he shares his adventures with his pigman, Nonno Frankie, and his best friend, Jennifer, Zindel

reveals the source of his humor and the basis for many of his stories and characters. Younger readers will find his light touch and resilience in dealing with difficulty a source of strength. A great introduction to this author and to the memoir genre.

If you want to feel good at the end of a story, this is not the book for you. It's a fascinating glimpse into the real life of an author, and it's a neat exploration into a time and region that no longer exists. But the end of the book, in its honesty, makes you feel kind of sad and cynical. Hmm bummer.

The Pigman and Me is an autobiography of the life of Paul Zindel. This book consists of the many experiences of his teenage years living in Travis, Staten Island, New York. My personal favorite part of this book is the relationship between Paul and his Pigman, Nonno Frankie. Paul ends up learning a countless number of things from Nonno Frankie including the secret to life. I usually don't like to read non-fiction books, but this was really amazing. The truth in this book is much more interesting than what you would find in a fiction book because you know that it's true. Although Paul experiences many difficulties fitting in in his new school and neighborhood, he gains so much making new friends and learning so much about life. Many of his hardships also include his mother's emotional and financial problems. He is also without a father, which is a spot in his life that actually seems to be filled by the Pigman. One of the greatest friends he makes is one of his neighbors, Jennifer Wolupopski. Overall, this book has a very strong middle but the ending isn't quite as good as I hoped it would have been. I would still recommend it to any teenager or preteen between the ages of 11-16.

I thought this was a good book because it was interesting. It is about a boy, his mom, and sister. They share a house with a girl and her twin sons. The twins' grandfather becomes the boy's pigman. My favorite part was when Paul met the twins' grandfather. I liked this book because it was not boring and interesting. Like when Paul got in a fight with a kid from school and his sister saved him. I would recommend this book to young teens.

This was a book about Paul Zindel's childhood and the problems that he had to face with his family and friends. Luckily Nonno Frankie was able to help him out and become his "pigman", or a person that helps someone out when they need it the most. Nonno Frankie helped liven up Paul's life, and he helped him through some tough times. This was an excellent book!!

My 12 year old daughter loves Harry Potter and Sammy Keyes. She moaned when I insisted that she read a biography this summer. Lucky for her, *The Pigman and Me* was with the biographies in the "young adult" section of our library. It was not what I'd had in mind, but she absolutely loved it.

I read the book *The Pigman and Me* By Paul Zindel. This is the second book in the series that I have read, I enjoyed both very much. Each book in the series has its own separate characters, story, and its own lesson. In this particular book the characters are interesting. There are Betty and Paul who are the children, there is a mother who is a huge part of the story. The mother has a friend named Connie Vivona who has twins named Nicky and Joey. The other characters are Nono Frankie and Nono Mamie, who is the daughter of Connie Vivona. All the characters are Italian. The story is being told in retrospect by Paul. Most of the story is taking place in Travis, Staten Island when they were living there. The story tells of them when they were teenagers and didn't have any money. They would move from house to house when the rent was due. They had many financial and emotional struggles. They learn about friendships, confidence and the importance of helping each other. You will enjoy finding out the meaning of the pigman and who he is in the story.

I can't put this into words it was so great. All of the suspense, action, drama, and Zindel's sense of humor made this book great! He is probably the only man that can put an auto-biography into a teenage perspective. That is what makes this book so appealing.

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