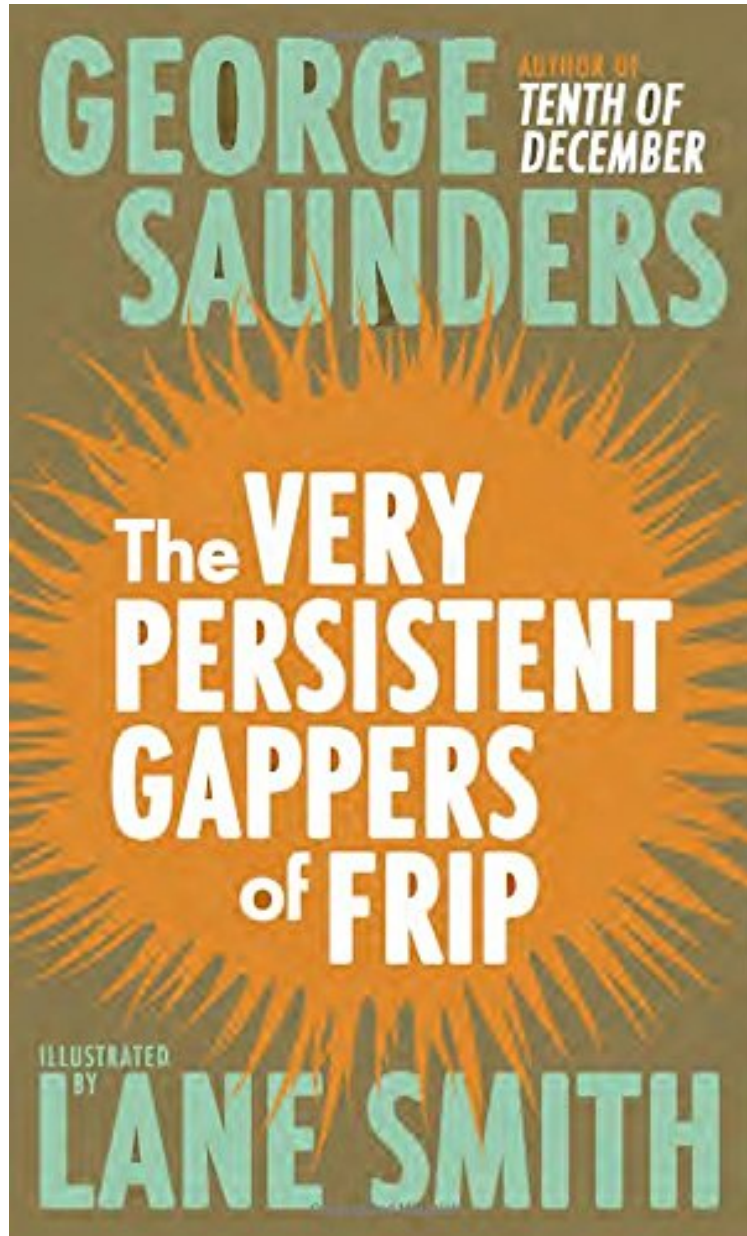


[Free and download] The Very Persistent Gappers of Friip

## The Very Persistent Gappers of Friip

*George Saunders*

*\*Download PDF / ePub / DOC / audiobook / ebooks*



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#65321 in Books George Saunders 2015-11-24 2015-11-24 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.58 x .49 x 5.871, .79 #File Name: 081298963596 pages The Very Persistent Gappers of Friip | File size: 50.Mb

**George Saunders : The Very Persistent Gappers of Friip** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Very Persistent Gappers of Friip:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Kindness and generosity? A perfect book for today. By Lynda

RadicanThis amazing and powerful little book reminds us of the importance of reaching across our fences to help our neighbors. To not assume that problems others face are indications of character flaws. To remember that tradition should not be used as an excuse to not change course when a current path no longer yields positive results.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great Book for Children and Adults AlikeBy DavidThe Very Persistent Gappers of Frip is a brilliant book by George Saunders. Actually this is more of a children's book, but is a book an adult can appreciate as well. The book is fabulously illustrated by Lane Smith. The illustrations are really spot on with the prose. A wonderful job by both author and illustrator.The story's theme is the importance of helping others in need and the consequences of selfishness. This is a universal lesson needed by both children and adults. Saunders actually wrote a book about kindness? Yea!I won't delve into the plot as the story is so short and I do not want to spoil it, but I cannot say enough good things about this book. Not only is it a good story, but it teaches a good lesson as well.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Chock full of important messages/themes without annoying, didactic toneBy Nina WhimA weird, surreal, quirky, funny albeit dark story that examines: being holier than thou, kindness, helping neighbors--meaning of community, work ethic, fate vs. free will-all kinds of important themes. These are very important messages that are hard to get across without being overly didactic. George Saunders succeeds. He's a modern master--a genius-- and EVERYONE should read his work! He makes you think about our society in a deep, uncomfortable way. In fact, you will never be the same after reading a George Saunders story.

From the bestselling author of *Tenth of December* comes a splendid new edition of his acclaimed collaboration with the illustrator behind *The Stinky Cheese Man* and *James and the Giant Peach*! Featuring fifty-two haunting and hilarious images, *The Very Persistent Gappers of Frip* is a modern fable for people of all ages that touches on the power of kindness, generosity, compassion, and community. In the seaside village of Frip live three families: the Romos, the Ronsens, and a little girl named Capable and her father. The economy of Frip is based solely on goat's milk, and this is a problem because the village is plagued by gappers: bright orange, many-eyed creatures the size of softballs that love to attach themselves to goats. When a gapper gets near a goat, it lets out a high-pitched shriek of joy that puts the goats off giving milk, which means that every few hours the children of Frip have to go outside, brush the gappers off their goats, and toss them into the sea. The gappers have always been everyone's problem, until one day they get a little smarter, and instead of spreading out, they gang up: on Capable's goats. Free at last of the tyranny of the gappers, will her neighbors rally to help her? Or will they turn their backs, forcing Capable to bear the misfortune alone? Featuring fifty-two haunting and hilarious illustrations by Lane Smith and a brilliant story by George Saunders that explores universal themes of community and kindness, *The Very Persistent Gappers of Frip* is a rich and resonant story for those that have all and those that have not. Praise for George Saunders "No one writes more powerfully than George Saunders."—Michiko Kakutani, *The New York Times* "Saunders makes you feel as though you are reading fiction for the first time."—Khaled Hosseini "George Saunders is a complete original. . . . There is no one better, no one more essential to our national sense of self and sanity."—Dave Eggers "Few people cut as hard or deep as Saunders does."—Junot Díaz "Not since Twain has America produced a satirist this funny."—Zadie Smith Praise for *The Very Persistent Gappers of Frip* "In a perfect world, every child would own a copy of this profound, funny fable. . . . Every adult would own a copy too, and would marvel at how this smart, subversive little book is even deeper and more hilarious than any child could know."—*Entertainment Weekly* "Saunders's idiosyncratic voice makes an almost perfect accompaniment to children's book illustrator Smith's heightened characterizations and slightly surreal backdrops."—*Publishers Weekly* "A riveting, funny, and sly new fairy tale."—*Miami Herald*

.com *The Very Persistent Gappers of Frip* is that rarity, a fable that appeals equally to literate adults and id-crazed kids. Its author, George Saunders, is a Thomas Pynchon-approved, three-time O. Henry Award-winning surrealist writer; its artist, Lane Smith, is the Caldecott-honored illustrator of *The Stinky Cheese Man* and film designer of *James and the Giant Peach*. Nothing could evoke Saunders's simple yet extravagant story better than Smith's strange, painterly depictions of the seaside town of Frip, a place of ornery eccentrics and oddball animals. Smith combines some of the virtues of George Grosz, Dr. Seuss, and the Japanese prints called *Ukiyo-e* ("pictures of the floating world"). Gappers are baseball-sized, burr-shaped orange creatures with a compulsion to creep up out of the sea and fasten themselves to goats, whom they love. "When a gapper gets near a goat it gives off a continual high-pitched happy shriek of pleasure that makes it impossible for the goat to sleep, and the goats get skinny and stop giving milk," writes Saunders. Since Frip survives by selling goat milk, the children must brush gappers off the herd eight times daily and dump them into the ocean. You simply must see Smith's picture of Capable, the book's plucky heroine, emptying her gapper-sack from a precarious cliff picturesquely menaced by subtly colored waves. You'll be torn between lingering over the gorgeous artwork and flipping the page to see how Capable will ever cope with the gapper invasion of Frip, her obdurately past-obsessed widower papa, and her dumb, mean neighbors (two snooty, boy-obsessed girls and a family of singers who are harder on the ears than a keening gapper attached to the goat of its dreams). This is a slim tale, but unquestionably one quite in keeping with Saunders's prizewinning books. The title story of *Pastoralia*, for instance, is also a fable involving class struggle and people who get snooty about the

difficulties of working with goats. *The Very Persistent Gappers of Frip* is a grownups' book, a kids' book, an art book, and a cause for countless happy shrieks of pleasure. --Tim Appelo

From Publishers Weekly

Saunders's (Pastoralia) idiosyncratic voice makes an almost perfect accompaniment to children's book illustrator Smith's (*The Stinky Cheese Man*) heightened characterizations and slightly surreal backdrops in this unconventional fairy tale for grownups. Saunders describes the setting, the town of Frip, as "three leaning shacks by the sea," which Smith represents as oblong two-story towers in brick red, ocean blue and mint green situated on irregular plots of land with sinewy trees against a yellow sky that suggest a Daliesque eeriness. The 1,500 gappers, spiky little creatures with multiple eyes, feed on the goats that graze the shacks' backyards; by habit, they split into three groups to attack all three properties at once. One day, the gappers decide that henceforth they will concentrate all their efforts on the goats at only one house, the one closest to the sea. Inhabited by a girl, Capable, and her grieving, widowed father. Soon, the two unafflicted families begin to tell themselves that they are superior to Capable and her father ("Not that we're saying we're better than you, necessarily, it's just that, since gappers are bad, and since you and you alone now have them, it only stands to reason that you are not, perhaps, quite as good as us"). Of course it's only a matter of time until everybody's luck changes. The Saunders-Smith collaboration is inspired. Smith adds witty touches throughout, and Saunders's dialogue features uncannily amusing deadpan repetitions and platitudinous self-exculpations. Saunders is much too hip to bring this fable to an edifying ending, but things do conclude as happily as is possible in the morally challenged, circumscribed world of Frip.

From School Library Journal

Adult/High School--Life in Frip, while not necessarily pleasant or fun, was at least predictable. Every day, the gappers would inch out of the sea, attach themselves to goats (which they love), and begin to shriek happily. The goats (who don't love the gappers) would get thin and nervous, and stop giving milk. To save them (and the local economy), the children of Frip would remove the gappers and cast them back into the sea. And so it went, until the day that one gapper figured out that there was no need to split themselves among the three houses in the village. Instead, they could lavish all their affection on the goats of the house closest to the sea. This decision eventually leads to bad blood among neighbors, lots of money for the strong men from Fritch, a restructuring of the local economy, and a resolution to the gappers' sadly unrequited love. This delightful story is lavishly illustrated and the text and the pictures complement one another perfectly. It is a parable of sorts, and one could probably even find a hint of a moral. It is also a wickedly funny, entertaining, and engaging read. Oh, and if at this point you are wondering what a gapper is, close your eyes and picture a bright orange burr about the size of a baseball, with many eyes and one mouth, with which to shriek happily. --Susan Salpini, Purcellville Library, VA

Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc.