

# Slappy's Tales of Horror (Goosebumps Graphix)

By R.L. Stine



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Four Goosebumps Graphix tales by master of horror R. L. Stine are adapted into full-color comics and feature a brand-new Slappy story by bestselling author, Dave Roman.

The talented Dave Roman creates the horrifying drawings for "The Night of the Living Dummy," the origin story about that most evil of all ventriloquist dummies, Slappy!

In "A Shocker on Shock Street," Jamie Tolagson captures the chilling tale of a brother and sister doing their dream job: testing rides in a movie studio theme park, where the special effects are REALLY special.

With his shadowy illustrations, Gabriel Hernandez creates the perfect atmosphere in "The Werewolf of Fever Swamp," a spooky story about a boy and his dog who go sniffing around in a lonely swamp... and wish they hadn't.

Ted Naifeh is at his creepy best in "Ghost Beach," a scary ghost story about a brother and sister who investigate a local legend and discover a terrible secret about their family.



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#### Slappy's Tales of Horror (Goosebumps Graphix) By R.L. Stine Bibliography

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#### **Editorial Review**

#### From School Library Journal

Gr 3–6—Adapting various tales from the "Goosebumps" series as short comics, this collection compiles three stories from previous Graphix anthologies (from 2006 and 2007) about an amusement park, swamp werewolves, and ghostly ancestors and adds one new adaptation, the first appearance of Slappy, the evil ventriloquist dummy. Each segment has the hallmarks of the individual artist as he balances comedy and horror, childishness and seriousness: Tolagson's deep shadows and brisk pace keep readers guessing at what is actually perilous, and Hernandez's pen and ink scratches help bridge the gap between mundane and dangerous. The more cartoony styles of Naifeh and Roman may reduce the fear factor, but Naifeh's sense of mood remains top-notch. Because each segment is compressed from a full "Goosebumps" book, there are diverting details and narrative cul-de-sacs to make each story twisty and unpredictable to new readers and even to those familiar with horror tropes. The final twist in each story may not be too surprising, but the path to get there is well paced and finely tuned. VERDICT The visuals add detail and vividity to these stories but somehow also make them more distant and less universal, leaving them an interesting counterpart to readers' imaginations.—Benjamin Russell, Belmont High School, NH

#### From the Inside Flap

Goosebumps Graphix is back to chill you to the bone!

Slappy, the evil talking dummy, introduces four terrifying tales from the master of horror, R. L. Stine. In "A Shocker on Shock Street," Jamie Tolagson captures the thrills, chills, and deadly spills of a brother and sister doing their dream job: testing rides in a movie studio theme park, where the special effects are REALLY special.

With his shadowy illustrations, Gabriel Hernandez creates the perfect atmosphere in The "Werewolf of Fever Swamp," a spooky story about a boy and his dog who go sniffing around in a lonely swamp . . . and wish they hadn't.

Ted Naifeh is at his creepy best in Ghost Beach, a scary ghost story about a brother and sister who investigate a local legend and discover a terrible secret about their family.

Finally, Dave Roman draws the horrifying pictures for "Night of the Living Dummy," the origin story about that most evil of all ventriloquist dummies, Slappy!

#### About the Author

R.L. Stine has more than 350 million English language books in print, plus international editions in 32 languages, making him one of the most popular children's authors in history. Besides Goosebumps, R.L. Stine has written other series including Fear Street, Rotten School, Mostly Ghostly, The Nightmare Room, and Dangerous Girls. R.L. Stine lives in New York with his wife, Jane, and his King Charles spaniel, Minnie. www.RLStine.com.

Dave Roman is the author/illustrator of the Astronaut Academy series. He is the co-author of two New York Times bestselling graphic novels, X-MEN: MISFITS and THE LAST AIRBENDER: ZUKO'S STORY. He lives in Astoria, NY with his wife, and fellow comic artist, Raina Telgemeier.

#### **Users Review**

#### From reader reviews:

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#### Joan Henderson:

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#### **Olive Griffin:**

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