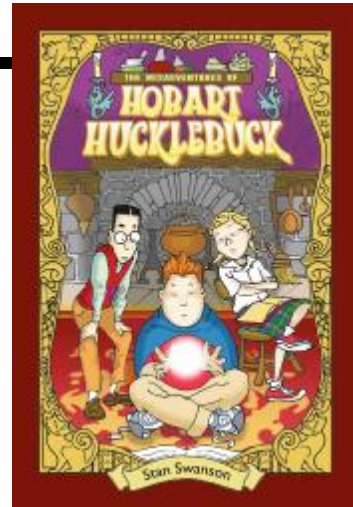


MEDIA KIT

The Misadventures of Hobart Hucklebuck

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About the book *The Misadventures of Hobart Hucklebuck*

Things are not as they should be in Pennywhistle. Enchanted toasters are not toasting, enchanted sprinklers are not sprinkling and Hobart Hucklebuck's origami messenger birds are suddenly attacking him. Someone seems to be draining the power from all of the enchanted items in the village. But who could it be and why have they implicated Hobart's grandfather? *The Misadventures of Hobart Hucklebuck* follows Hobart and his friends, Specks Spacklethack and Rosie Rumpleskirt, as they try to solve this mystery and free Hobart's grandfather from the Tower of Tribulation on Mumblemonk Mountain. The trio's investigation into the mysterious happenings on Druid Lane gets them into hot water more than once and ultimately brings them dangerously close to disaster not only for themselves, but the entire village of Pennywhistle.

Fact sheet

The Misadventures of Hobart Hucklebuck

Publisher: Stony Meadow Publishing
2020 West 10th Avenue, #103, Broomfield, CO 80020
<http://www.StonyMeadowPublishing.com>

Author: Stan Swanson

Pages: 200

Format: Hard Cover Paperback (Perfect Binding)

ISBN: 978-0-9787925-3-4 978-0-9878925-2-7

Retail price: \$16.95 \$9.99

Publication date: October 2007 (both editions)

About the author



Stan Swanson's first excursion into creative writing was a poem published in the local newspaper when he was 8 years old. A few years later his 8th grade teacher was so impressed by his science fiction short stories that she sent them off to a University of Colorado English professor who told him he had the makings "of a true yarn spinner". He won a literary award in high school for one of his poems and was the entertainment editor of the school newspaper for two years.

After a three year stint in the Army, Stan worked as a writer, columnist and editor for a Denver area newspaper. He also worked as the entertainment editor for *Denver Magazine*.

Stan formed Computer Publications Unlimited in 1985 and published a computer magazine, *The Computer Connection*, and a gaming newsletter, *The Lynx*, for several years. He spent twenty years with a major Denver-area printing and publishing company and left his production manager position there in the late 90's.

The Dragons of Shadara was Stan's first book and was released through AuthorHouse in 2003. After additional research into the world of publishing, he formed Stony Meadow Publishing in 2005 as a means to writing and publishing additional works.

Stan has also written and published two books geared towards songwriters. *Inspiration For Songwriters* was released in 2006 and *The Songwriter's Journal* in 2007. His newest book, *The Misadventures of Hobart Hucklebuck*, is a juvenile fantasy adventure for ages 8-11. It is scheduled for release in October of 2007. His current plans call for a sequel to Hobart in 2008 as well as a re-release of *The Dragons of Shadara* as *Dragontooth: Book One*. It will be a complete re-write to allow for the possibility of additional books in the series.

Stan currently resides in Broomfield, Colorado with his wife, Joy. He has three children and four grandchildren.

Reviews & Comments: *The Misadventures of Hobart Hucklebuck*

"What a fun read! Stan Swanson has spun a clever, imaginative tale in a fantastical world that is at the same time marvelously grounded in human relationships that young readers will identify with. From his disheveled red hair to his cat phobia, Hobart Hucklebuck is a memorable main character who possesses an 'every kid' quality that makes it easy to root for him as he uses his clumsy magic to seek the truth and fight a frightening villain. *The Misadventures of Hobart Hucklebuck* will keep readers captivated through the final page and voracious for more."

--Jenni Hadden (Freelance Writer/Editor) Arvada, CO

Author Interview Q & A

Q: *When and how did you start writing books for children and young adults?*

A: Several years ago I had an idea for what I thought would be a fantasy book for adults. The working title of the book was *A Boy And His Dragon*. After I had written about three chapters I realized that the style and feeling of the book seemed to be geared more toward younger audiences. It sort of shocked me when I realized this, but once I accepted the fact, the book came quite easily. I think I finished the first draft in about 3 months. Of course, the book then went through 11 or 12 re-writes, but that's a different story.

Q: *So *The Misadventures of Hobart Hucklebuck* isn't your first juvenile fiction work?*

A: No. I actually finished the "dragon" book and published it through AuthorHouse (which was then 1stBooks) as *The Dragons of Shadara*. I had the basic premise and outline done for Hobart about the same time, but then Harry Potter hit and I was hesitant to pursue it as my book was also about a young boy and magic. I wanted to wait and see what Harry Potter was all about. After reading the first Harry Potter book, I figured there was enough difference between the books that I should go ahead and pursue publishing Hobart.

Q: *So you don't see a conflict of interest to the Harry Potter series?*

A: Not at all. I figure that now that the last Harry Potter book is out that hopefully young readers will turn to something in a similar vein. I guess I actually owe J. K. Rowling a thank you for bringing so many young people back to reading!

Q: *What else can you tell else about the book?*

A: Hobart Hucklebuck is a ten-year-old boy living in the village of Pennywhistle. Magic is an everyday thing here and most people have magical skills of some level although the "old-fashioned" art of magic is being lost. Enchantments are the newest thing, but all enchantments are done in factories. There is a big difference between magic and enchantments. Magic spells aren't permanent and wear off after a time depending on the skill of the magician. Enchanted items hold their enchantments forever. Or at least they should. Things get interesting in Pennywhistle when enchanted items begin losing their power. When Hobart's grandfather is accused of causing the problem and is eventually sent to prison, Hobart and his friends have to save "save the day".

Q: *Do you have plans for additional Hobart books?*

A: That's the long-range plan. I already have two or three ideas for new books scribbled down on a napkin somewhere.

Q: *Will you keep the same characters in the next book?*

A: Most of them will be re-appearing characters. I think kids will identify well with Hobart, Specks Spacklethack and Rosie Rumpleskirt. There are a lot of great characters in the book. We will, of course, introduce a new character or two and perhaps bring Hobart's parents to the forefront, but only time will tell.

Q: *You have written fiction and non-fiction books. Which do you prefer to write?*

A: That's a good question. They are very different. Non-fiction books usually require more research. Fiction writers, for the most part, are perhaps more creative. I'm not sure every author could successfully do both though I know several who have. Maybe authors just end up enjoying one more than the other and that's why you don't see a lot of cross-over. I probably enjoy writing fiction more, but there's not the financial advantage that non-fiction brings to the table. At least not yet. I'm hoping that changes with Hobart!

Q: *What else do you have in the works?*

A: I am currently working on a couple of new books. One of them is a re-release of *The Dragons of Shadara* book I talked about earlier. I'm doing a complete re-write as I plan on it being a series as well. It will be released as *Dragontooth: Book One*. My wife and I have discussed collaborating on sequels. I'm also working on a book about self-publishing as well a third book for songwriters.

Q: *What do you do with in your spare time?*

A: As you can imagine, there's not much time for spare time in my life. I have a full-time job and then spend another 25-30 hours a week writing and marketing. My wife and I like to travel when we can. I secretly love reality TV shows, but don't let anybody hear that. I love the reaction between the people on these shows. I think it helps in my writing as well. It helps me understand why people act and react the way they do in certain situations. And you can seldom predict the ending!

Press Release: *The Misadventures of Hobart Hucklebuck*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Great Gobs of Gollyglobber... Here Comes Hobart!

Denver, CO -- June 7, 2007 -- Stony Meadow Publishing announced today that their first children's book, *The Misadventures of Hobart Hucklebuck*, is finished. The book, aimed at readers 7-12, is a new fantasy fiction book from author Stan Swanson. The book carries a publication date of October 1, 2007, but should be available for pre-orders from the publisher and online bookstores by early July.

"I began writing this book just about the time Harry Potter arrived on the scene," Swanson said in a recent interview. "Although I hadn't read the Potter books at that time, I really didn't want to be compared to the series or for people to say I was jumping on the bandwagon. I put the manuscript away in a desk drawer and went on to other things. It gathered dust there for quite some time until my wife suggested that maybe it was time for Hobart to introduce himself to the world."

After reading the book again for the first time in years, Swanson suddenly saw that his wife was right. It was indeed time for Hobart to peek his head out from between those pages. Another re-write or two was all it took for *The Misadventures of Hobart Hucklebuck* to become a reality.

BOOK DESCRIPTION:

Things are not as they should be in Pennywhistle. Enchanted toasters are not toasting, enchanted sprinklers are not sprinkling and Hobart Hucklebuck's origami messenger birds are suddenly attacking him. Someone seems to be draining the power from all of the enchanted items in the village. But who could it be and why have they implicated Hobart's grandfather? *The Misadventures of Hobart Hucklebuck* follows Hobart and his friends, Specks Spacklethack and Rosie Rumpleskirt, as they try to solve this mystery and free Hobart's grandfather from the Tower of Tribulation on Mumblemonk Mountain. The trio's investigation into the mysterious happenings on Druid Lane get them into hot water more than once and ultimately brings them dangerously close to disaster not only for themselves, but the entire village of Pennywhistle.

The book will be available in paperback and hard cover editions through Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and other online bookstores as well as the publisher. It will also be available through local bookstores.

For additional information on *The Misadventures of Hobart Hucklebuck*, visit www.HobartHucklebuck.com* or www.StonyMeadowPublishing.com.

Stan Swanson, author of *The Misadventures of Hobart Hucklebuck*, has previously published two books on songwriting, *Inspiration For Songwriters* and *The Songwriter's Journal*. He is currently working on a sequel to Hobart Hucklebuck as well as another juvenile fiction book, *Dragontooth*. Both are scheduled for release in 2008.

Stony Meadow Publishing was established in 2004 and is located in Broomfield, Colorado.

(*The Hobart Hucklebuck web site is under construction, but should be "open for business" by July of 2007.)