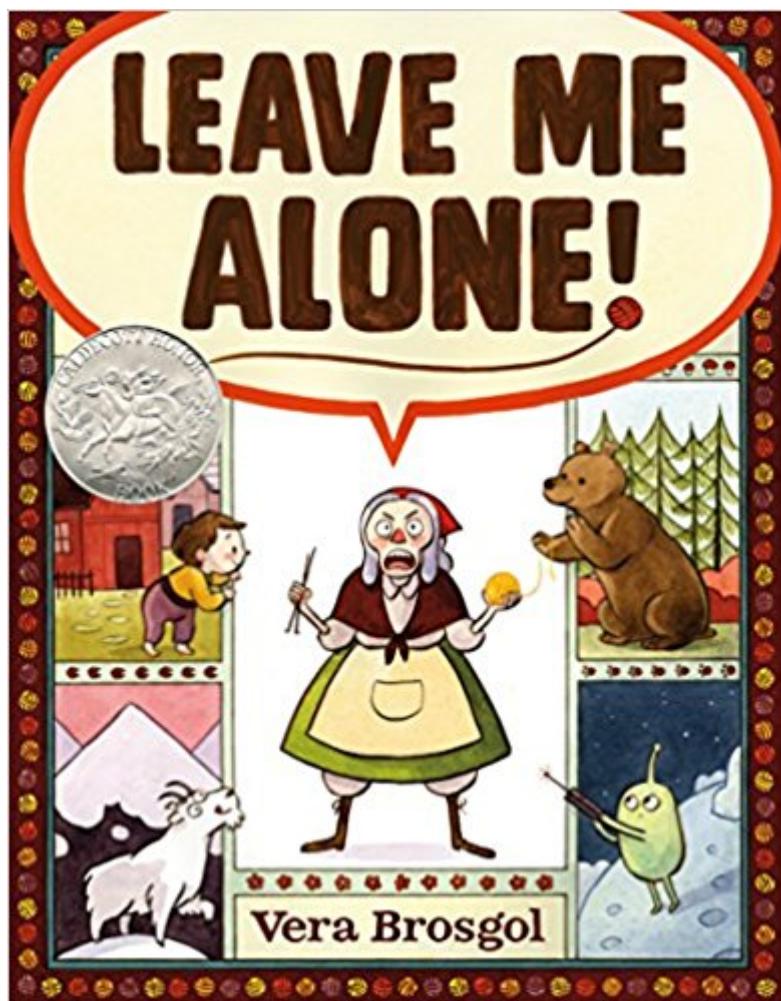


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# Leave Me Alone!



## Synopsis

A 2017 Caldecott Honor Book that The New York Times calls "a both classic and ultracontemporary." "Leave Me Alone!" is an epic tale about one grandmother, a giant sack of yarn, and her ultimate quest to finish her knitting. One day, a grandmother shouts, "LEAVE ME ALONE!" and leaves her tiny home and her very big family to journey to the moon and beyond to find peace and quiet to finish her knitting. Along the way, she encounters ravenous bears, obnoxious goats, and even hordes of aliens! But nothing stops grandma from accomplishing her goal—knitting sweaters for her many grandchildren to keep them warm and toasty for the coming winter. Vera Brosgol's slyly clever and unexpectedly funny modern folktale is certain to warm even the coldest of hearts.

A 2017 Caldecott Honor Book  
A New York Times Notable Children's Book  
A National Public Radio Best Book of 2016  
A Horn Book Best Book of 2016  
A Huffington Post Best Picture Book of 2016

## Book Information

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Roaring Brook Press (September 13, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1626724415

ISBN-13: 978-1626724419

Product Dimensions: 8.8 x 11.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars (40 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #28,285 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #78 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Multigenerational #1333 in Books > Children's Books > Humor

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

## Customer Reviews

PreS-Gr 2 "Brosgol incorporates folktale elements in her amusing story of an old woman in search of a quiet place to knit. Fleeing her too small house overrun with too many energetic grandchildren, she packs her needles and yarn and heads for the mountains. Unfortunately, she can't find an undisturbed spot. Hungry bears, curious mountain goats, and little green moon-men provoke her to shout: "Leave me alone!" Climbing through a wormhole, she discovers a dark and quiet place to

complete 30 little sweaters. Then she crawls through a wormhole that leads to her house, where 30 grandchildren rush to meet her. Peasant clothing, wooden houses, and village scenes create a setting reminiscent of the Brothers Grimm or of *Fiddler on the Roof*. The humorous illustrations depict the determined woman knitting in improbable circumstances as she climbs ever higher. A huge bear looms above her, curious "about what she might taste like." Mountain goats frolic with balls of yarn they consider tasty snacks. Green creatures investigate the woman with handheld scanners while she sits on a chair-shaped moon rock. Brosol is a master of facial expressions, using eyes, mouth, and forehead lines to indicate the old woman's thoughts and emotions.

**VERDICT** This offbeat tale will please readers who appreciate subtle humor, especially those who crave some time alone. A good choice for collections needing to bolster their supply of humorous titles.â "Kathy Piehl, Minnesota State University Library, Mankato

â œThis book reads aloud beautifully to large groups, and should have them rolling in the aisles. Funny is hard; Brosol makes it look easy.â • â •NPR, Best Books of 2016â œBrosol's clever text manages to feel both classic and ultracontemporary, as do her illustrations . . . Colorful and fun, *Leave Me Alone!* will be a good addition to any bookshelf, especially for children who like to shout along.â • â •The New York Times Book Reviewâ œDisplaying a firm command of the picture book format and a strong sense of comic timing, *Leave Me Alone!* [is] so well-executed, it feels almost unfair that this is Brosolâ ™s first foray into picture books.â • â •The Huffington Post, â œBest Picture Books of 2016â • â œAnyone who has yearned for peace and quietâ •and those who enjoy pestering such a personâ •will appreciate the plight of the crotchety heroine of *Leave Me Alone*, a picture book by Vera Brosol that hilariously mingles elements both folkloric and intergalactic . . . The clean lines and bright colors of Ms. Brosol's pictures convey good cheer throughout, despite the yelling, in this snugly knitted amusement for 4- to 8-year-olds.â • â •The Wall Street Journalâ œBrosol is a master . . . This offbeat tale will please readers who appreciate subtle humor, especially those who crave some time alone.â • â •School Library Journal, starred reviewâ œBrosolâ ™s cartooning delivers laughs throughout . . . The fizzy collision of old-fashioned fairy tale elements with space-age physics is delightful, and even the most extroverted readers will recognize that sometimes you just need a little space.â • â •Publisher's Weekly, starred reviewâ œBrosolâ ™s folkloric tale is full of humor and repetition, making it a good choice to read aloud . . . Understatedly funny, just like the Eastern European folk tales on whose shoulders it stands.â • â •Kirkus Reviewsâ œAn impressive picture book debut . . . Repetition and patterned storytelling ground the out-of-this-world elements for a thoroughly entertaining

adventure. • • Horn Book • Brosgol infuses her fairy tale “like story with a hefty dose of humor, thanks to her fantastic page turns and comedic timing . . . As cozy as a new sweater. • • Booklist • With clever trips to the moon and through worm holes, Vera Brosgol brings a fresh new perspective to the world of children’s books. • • Dan Santat, *The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend* • A cranky, funny, skillful, gentle, beautiful beautiful book. • • Jon Klassen, *I Want My Hat Back*

I absolutely ADORE this book, and am so glad I happened across it! While any knitter (or mom) can relate to the heroine’s plight, I wish I could warp through space and give Vera Bristol a huge hug! Three weeks ago, before the book was published, the eldest of my thirteen children was hosting a party for my 50th birthday, requesting that gifts be directed toward sending me away for some alone-time, to knit or do whatever I wanted without being bothered. When I heard Ms. Bristol interviewed on the KnitPicks Podcast, I had to stop in my tracks and order the book --quick-- for my daughter’s birthday. Now, after requiring that each of my at-home kids read the story aloud, I’m back at to order two more copies. THANK YOU for writing my life story!

Anya’s Ghost was a favorite book of my daughters’. They loved it so much I had to get this one when it came out. The illustrations are adorable and the story is just super cute. Being a knitter with a lot of people around... I relate. Though, I bet even non-knitters would be able to relate. Super cute.

Unexpectedly quirky, it’s well illustrated and well written. I’m a preschool teacher and I read a lot of children’s books. This isn’t one of those that annoys you if you have to read it a bunch of times. Funny for adults and kids.

Reminds me of myself! Never get any knitting projects done because there’s always something else going on. This is what the main character discovers, in a funny way, but when she does get her wish, it’s not as wonderful as she had expected.

We did have fun when I was reading this story to my granddaughter. She is 8 and is very interesting in knitting process, so I am teaching her to knit, and she enjoy that a lot. I am also a knitwear designer, so gets some inspiration from my work, too. So, needless to say that we had a wonderful time reading this book!

Funny book to read grandchildren if you knit

My grandson went around the house in a mocking way saying "leave me alone!!!!" He enjoyed the book...finds the name funny. He is 4.

My grandsons love this book!

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