



## Bad Magic (The Bad Books)

By Pseudonymous Bosch

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**Bad Magic (The Bad Books)** By Pseudonymous Bosch

**The *magical*, bestselling series from Pseudonymous Bosch, the author of the Secret Series!**

### **Magic is BAD.**

As in fake. Cheesy. Unreal. At least, that's what Clay, who has seen one magic show too many, thinks.

When words from his journal appear mysteriously on his school wall as graffiti, he never imagines that magic might be to blame. And when the same graffiti lands him at Earth Ranch, a camp for "troubled" kids on a remote volcanic island, magic is the last thing he expects to find there.

But at Earth Ranch, there is one strange surprise after another, until Clay no longer knows what to expect. Is he really talking to a llama? Did he really see a ghost? What is the scary secret hidden in the abandoned library? The only thing he knows for sure is that behind the clouds of vog (volcanic smog), nothing is as it seems. Can he solve the riddle of Earth Ranch before trouble erupts?

Elusive author Pseudonymous Bosch introduces an extraordinary new series that will have you believing in the unbelievable.

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### Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 4–6—Bosch is back with a novel that's part mystery, part adventure. This series opener features sixth grader Clay, the younger brother of the hero from Bosch's popular "Secret" books (Little, Brown). After an incident with some graffiti, Clay finds himself spending his summer at Earth Ranch, a camp for delinquent youth on a remote volcanic island. While at camp, Clay encounters a motley crew of eccentric kids; a llama that understands Spanish; a mysterious library; and, perhaps, even a bit of magic. Bosch employs, to great effect, his signature irreverence and hilarity packed into parenthetical asides and footnotes. The end result is a wacky, suspenseful mashup of Shakespeare's *The Tempest* and a summer camp tale that is a delight to read. *Bad Magic* is a clever and playful novel. An excellent addition to middle grade fiction collections.—Amy Koester, Skokie Public Library

Review

#### **Praise for *Bad Magic*:**

"Bosch employs, to great effect, his signature irreverence and hilarity... a delight to read. *Bad Magic* is a clever and playful novel. An excellent addition to middle grade fiction collections."? ***School Library Journal***

"Enjoyable... Bosch's arch narrative voice carries over from his previous books...From *The Tempest* and *Lord of the Flies* to shows like *Gilligan's Island* and *Lost*, cultural allusions abound as Clay tries to understand the island's many mysteries and meets his fellow campers. Gilbert's watercolors bring in additional humor."? ***Publishers Weekly***

[*Bad Magic*] contains threads of mystery, magic, word games, and snark... It is suspenseful, humorous, clever, and most importantly, fun. *Bad Magic* is definitely entertaining for a wide range of readers.? ***Voya***

"...Bosch's mix of slapstick silliness, sly authorial asides, and magical adventure will appeal to readers of Lemony Snicket and M. T. Anderson's *Pals in Peril* series."? ***Booklist***

### About the Author

Pseudonymous Bosch is the infamously anonymous author of the *New York Times* bestselling Secret Series. Despite rumors to the contrary, his books are not actually written by his pet rabbit, Quiche; the rabbit is merely his typist.

### Users Review

#### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Herbert Haubrich:**

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**Joan Davis:**

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**Shirley Henderson:**

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