

*Children's Literature Reviews*

Item 107 of 130

**Our Dumb Diary, A Journal to Share for Laughs, Rage and Stinky Stinky  
Pets***Jim Benton*

Scholastic Books, \$7.99 2006

**Reviews:****Gwynne Spencer (Children's Literature)**

Tagged as an addendum to Jim Benton's *Tales from Mackerel Middle School* and one of the "Dear Dumb Diary" books by Jamie Kelly, this is definitely not a title any library would consider purchasing. It is a consumable write-in diary, aimed at girls who want to add their input collaboratively to short topic pages in the manner of an old fashioned "slam book." It encourages girls to "Fill in your answers to these deep important questions and pass the book on to your friends so they can do the same." However, none of the questions are important or deep. The interior paper is a light lilac and the cover is electric pink with an internal spiral binding. Topics on the pages range from identifying nerds and ugliness, to opportunities for drawing and writing girls' opinions (and slams) of other people in sometimes very unflattering ways. Lots of emphasis on who is a loser, who is a looker. One page of small stickers is included at the end so the owner can respond to friends' responses without effort or writing! Not recommended for library or classroom use. 2006, Scholastic Books, \$7.99 Ages 10 up.

**Link to a Web Feature or Search for Other Works by:**[Benton, Jim](#)**Search for other reviews by:****[Gwynne Spencer](#)**

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