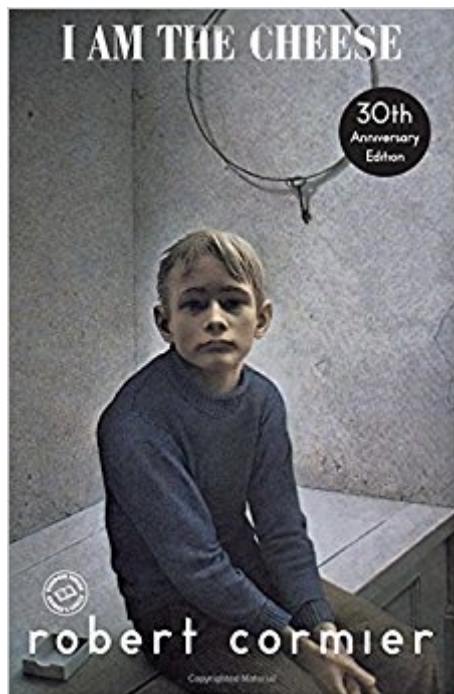


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# I Am The Cheese



## Synopsis

Before there was Lois Lowry’s *The Giver* or M. T. Anderson’s *Feed*, there was Robert Cormier’s *I Am the Cheese*, a subversive classic that broke new ground for YA literature. A boy’s search for his father becomes a desperate journey to unlock a secret past. But the past must not be remembered if the boy is to survive. As he searches for the truth that hovers at the edge of his mind, the boy—and readers—arrive at a shattering conclusion. “An absorbing, even brilliant job. The book is assembled in mosaic fashion: a tiny chip here, a chip there. . . . Everything is related to something else; everything builds and builds to a fearsome climax. . . . [Cormier] has the knack of making horror out of the ordinary, as the masters of suspense know how to do.” The New York Times Book Review “A horrifying tale of government corruption, espionage, and counter espionage told by an innocent young victim. . . . The buildup of suspense is terrific.” School Library Journal, starred review An ALA Notable Children’s Book A School Library Journal Best Book of the Year A Horn Book Fanfare A Library of Congress Children’s Book of the Year A Colorado Blue Spruce Young Adult Book Award Nominee

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 810L (What’s this?)

Paperback: 256 pages

Publisher: Ember; Rep Rei edition (September 11, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0375840397

ISBN-13: 978-0375840395

Product Dimensions: 5.6 x 0.5 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 372 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #22,798 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #24 in Books > Children’s Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Peer Pressure #26 in Books > Teens > Mysteries & Thrillers > Law & Crime #66 in Books > Teens > Mysteries & Thrillers > Thrillers & Suspense

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

Imagine discovering that your whole life has been a fiction, your identity altered, and a new family history created. Suddenly nothing is as it once seemed; you can trust no one, maybe not even yourself. It is exactly this revelation that turns 14-year-old Adam Farmer's life upside down. As he tries to ascertain who he really is, Adam encounters a past, present, and future too horrible to contemplate. Suspense builds as the fragments of the story are assembled--a missing father, government corruption, espionage--until the shocking conclusion shatters the fragile mosaic. Young adult readers will easily relate to the shy and confused Adam, whose desperate searching for self resembles a disturbingly exaggerated version of the identity crisis common to the teenage years. First published in 1977, *I Am the Cheese* provides an exciting introduction to psychological thrillers. This sensitive, emotional, subtly crafted novel by Robert Cormier (author of *The Chocolate War*) was a *New York Times* Outstanding Book of the Year, as well as a *School Library Journal* Best Book of the Year. --Emilie Coulter --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"A horrifying tale . . . the buildup of suspense is terrific." - *School Library Journal*, Starred"AN ABSORBING, EVEN brilliant job. The book is assembled in mosaic fashion: a tiny chip here, a chip there. . . . Everything is related to something else; everything builds and builds to a fearsome climax. . . . Cormier . . . has the knack of making horror out of the ordinary, as the masters of suspense know how to do." - *The New York Times Book Review*

I first read this book a few years ago as a summer reading assignment, and I read it in two days. It was such an awesome read that I bought it! The reader has to dig deep and read between the lines with every passage in the story and reading it a second time is worth it. To me, the climax of the story was a sudden, total shock and I found myself holding back tears as I continued. Loved this book, would read for the 5th time!

Adam Farmer doesn't know who he is. His family life is a blur, loved ones are hazy recollections, and some days he can't even recall his own name. Yet, somewhere in the "blanks" of his past he senses a threatening mystery. *I Am the Cheese* by Robert Cormier (Dell, 1977) is a gripping account of a young man's search for self amidst unstable circumstances and untrustworthy alliances. Adam's tale takes the reader on an adventure spanning far beyond small town norms, encompassing conspiracies, double identities, fledgling government agencies, and corruption. Cormier's blend of interview sessions in tandem with Adam's first-hand recollections of his past and

present allows the reader to untangle the layers of this mystery as the details make themselves known to Adam. In the midst of all this external drama, Cormier never forgets that Adam is still a teenager, grappling with the same issues as most teens. It is this factor that will surely keep young readers mesmerized. From Adam's touching memories of his first love, Amy Hertz, to the disillusionment he feels from mistrust of his parents, this thriller knocks the confusion and angst of teenage-dom with uncommon precision.

This book was one of my favorites when I was a kid and it still holds up. The twists and turns are awesome.

Although a bit confusing read for an 11 year old due to ending, this book kept my son's attention throughout.

I was looking for something for eighth-graders to read over the summer in order to have a book to analyze and write about at the beginning of the school year. This title seems as though it will work perfectly

I am the cheese is a great book full of suspense. Great suspense. It keeps you on your toes, waiting, and while you wait you guess to what really happened to him. Or better yet, what's going to happen next.

One of the most incredible books I have ever read. Could not put it down. Just wish the author had written a sequel.

Book came as described, but the stuff you guys wrap it in is too much like adhesive --nearly peeled the cover off. :(

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