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Moonday



Synopsis

What do you do when the moon lowers itself into your backyard? When mornings are replaced by perpetual night, and people sigh-sleep in their eyes. What do you do when the tide comes in, and all the neighborhood dogs won't stop howling? You take the moon for a ride. Adam Rex creates a fantastic tale that is both imaginative and beautiful; one that blurs the line between dreams and reality.

Book Information

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Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

Customer Reviews

K-Gr 2-Many children looking out a car window have thought that the Moon was following them. This luminous fable starts out by drawing on that familiar experience, but when this girl wakes up the next day, there is no morning-just the Moon, "Lower and larger. And very nearly on the ground. It was in our backyard." The spare poetic text, combined with illustrations in dark and vibrant jewel tones, makes each page turn carry a contemplative weight. In darkness, people stumble and yawn through their days. The child walks home from school through a surreal nighttime landscape where people doze at stoplights and sleepwalk through their hobbies. Eventually, the narrator and her parents drive the Moon out to the top of a hill where the youngster tells it to "Stay." And it does. Its glow seems to leap off the page, eerie and pervasive compared to the warm but limited glow of electric lights. Because the adults' reactions are mundane, the story inhabits that magical territory

that exists for young children who haven't yet figured the world out. Anything truly is possible. Children will love this tribute to their imaginings, and adults will appreciate the reminder that until you are taught otherwise, the Moon really can follow you all the way home.-Anna Haase Krueger, Ramsey County Library, White Bear Lake, MN (c) Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

As a girl and her parents drive home from a nearby hill, they watch the big, beautiful moon, which seems to follow them home. In the morning, they awaken to find the moon, slightly smaller than their house, floating balloon-like in their backyard. Though the girl goes to school, day never dawns. Teachers and townsfolk yawn. After school, the girl and her parents watch as tidal waters, drawn by the moon, seep into their yard. They hatch a plan to return the moon to the sky. Dreamlike, this picture book skates on thin ice with its mixture of fantasy and reality. Some narrative elements, such as the mother's gently amusing final comment, strengthen the story, while others seem a bit contrived. Still, the image of the luminous moon, which feels close enough to touch and small enough for a child to explore, is well worth seeing. A drowsy, rather surreal bedtime story. Preschool-Grade 1. --Carolyn Phelan

We are huge Adam Rex fans in my house, both of his previous picture books and chapter books (as well as the books he has illustrated but not written). Every time he creates something new, it's like he has walked through a magical portal ladder upwards onto a whole new level of amazing. Moonday takes a "what if" kind of premise -- what if the moon was in your backyard? -- and plays it out into a lovely, poetic, funny, sweet, and weird scenario. Any kid has watched the moon follow the car, and after reading this book, they are going to wish for the invisible thread that pulls that moon down for a closer look. Each illustration is a masterpiece. The book glows with moonlight. As with the very best picture books, each word is perfectly chosen and lyrical to read aloud. And best of all, my kids traded it back and forth and read it for hours.

The pictures are beautiful and I like to read it at bedtime. It makes children think, yet is calming. It makes me feel like I've visited a loving family. One that likes adventure.

Clever text and fabulous illustrations! Another hit from Adam Rex. My seven year old loved this book he has read it several times already.

Pictures are amazing words need a bit of work

great story & vivid illustration. We love using our imagination when it comes to the sun/moon

I remember as a child riding in a car, and looking out the window at the moon following us as we sped through the night. Somehow it was always gone in the morning, which disappointed me. In this picture book, both written and illustrated by Adam Rex, the full moon follows a little girl home, and when she wakes up, she finds that it's still there. In fact, it has settled in her backyard. And from there the story takes off. The little girl explores the moon ("it's chalky and cold"), her parents try to hide its glow with quilts and tablecloths, and its presence wreaks havoc on the sleepy town. The words are lovely: "That was when the tide came in. It trickled into our backyard. The tide came in, smooth and thin, and settled underneath our moon." And the art is gorgeous, matching those words to perfection. It's up to the little girl to figure out what to do. Lucky are the children who drift off to sleep, after having this picture book read to them as a bedtime story. P.S. And although it's not the point of the story, if you look closely, you'll notice that MOONDAY's heroine is adopted.

The moon settles in a young girl's backyard, setting in a night eternal. Or at least a day of night. Tides in the yard, dogs hanging about the fence, and everyone sleepy, until the moon is returned to the sky. I can certainly see this being a good bedtime story. It's very peaceful, with soft artwork and just the right pinch of fantasy to sooth rather than excite. As with most picture books, I advocate trying it from your library before purchasing. I think a goodly number of kids will like this, but it's hard to tell which ones, unless you've got a real space nut.

This picture book is a bit odd and probably one you'll either like a lot or find totally uninteresting. Having the moon settle in your backyard and then seeing what happens when the moon stays there is a sci fi sort of situation. It may work for older children but I think younger one's may be a bit confused or just find the whole situation rather silly (but not in a humorous sense). For me this was a little too bizarre to make this a book I'd want to pass on to my granddaughter or any child for that matter. Book provided by publisher.

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