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Amelia Bedelia Tries Her Luck

Liz Kazandzhy

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Book Review

Title: Amelia Bedelia Tries Her Luck

Author: Herman Parish

Illustrator: Lynne Avril

Reviewer: Liz Kazandzhy

Publisher: Greenwillow Books

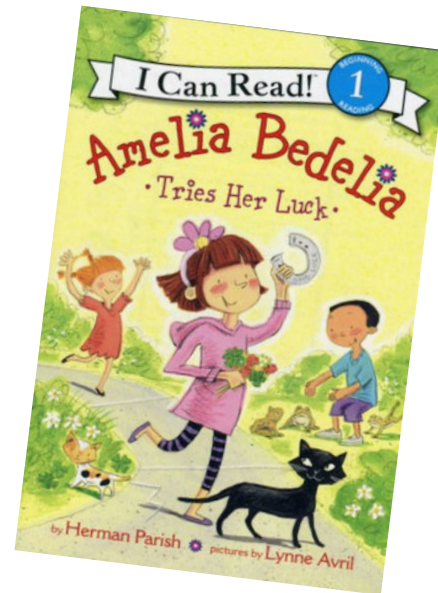
Publication Year: 2013

ISBN: 9780062221285

Number of Pages: 32

Interest Level: Primary

Rating: Excellent



Review

When Amelia Bedelia breaks a mirror, she's a little disappointed but thinks nothing more of it. That is, until she gets to school and her friends tell her that breaking a mirror is bad luck! Worse than that, it's Friday the Thirteenth, which means even more bad luck! Her trusty friends enlist in helping her get her luck back by searching the playground for items like four-leaf clovers and a rabbit's foot. When that fails, Amelia tries to make her own luck by drawing pictures of lucky things. When her teacher sees, it prompts a fun and informative classroom discussion about superstition. On her way home, her newfound knowledge that superstitions aren't real is tested when she purposely steps on a crack and soon becomes worried about her mother's back when she sees an ambulance in front of her house. But just her luck, everything is just fine!

Like other books in the Amelia Bedelia series, this one is marked by its humorous play on words and Amelia's tendency to take everything literally. Not only will it make both children and adults laugh, but it also has the potential to educate children about superstitions, some they may already be familiar with and others that will be new to them. The illustrations are completely satisfying—they are bright, colorful, clear, situated differently on each page to keep interest, and enhancing to the storyline. The text is also perfect for new readers in clear black font against a white background, and even the lines are perfectly tailored to flow as sentences should. This is an excellent book in a wonderful series and a great way to teach young children how to read!