



2002

Hey Kid, Want to Buy a Bridge?

Cathleen Alton

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr>

BYU ScholarsArchive Citation

Alton, Cathleen (2002) "Hey Kid, Want to Buy a Bridge?," *Children's Book and Media Review*. Vol. 23 : Iss. 2 , Article 27.

Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr/vol23/iss2/27>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at BYU ScholarsArchive. It has been accepted for inclusion in Children's Book and Media Review by an authorized editor of BYU ScholarsArchive. For more information, please contact scholarsarchive@byu.edu, ellen_amatangelo@byu.edu.

Scieska, Jon. *Hey Kid, Want to Buy a Bridge?* Illustrated by Adam McCauley. Viking, 2002. ISBN 067089916x. \$14.99. 74 pp.

Reviewer: Cathleen Alton

Reading level: Primary; Intermediate

Rating: Excellent

Genre: Humorous stories; Science fiction

Subject: Time travel--Juvenile fiction; Magic--Juvenile fiction; New York--Juvenile fiction; Books—Reviews;

Joe, Sam, and Fred (the time-warp trio) are at it again. This time, Sam's new invention, a Graphi-Sonic, combines together with the magic book that Joe received as a present from his uncle. The boys--and their great-grand-daughters from the future--are inadvertently yanked out of their own times into Brooklyn in the year 1877. As they try to set things right and ensure that their futures will be the same when they return, they have some interesting adventures. My only quibble about the plot development is that the title isn't consistent with the story. Brooklyn Bridge is involved, but no one ever talks about buying or selling it.

Hey, Kid, Want to Buy a Bridge should appeal to a wide variety of readers. It incorporates time travel, sports, inventions, history, and even a little fashion commentary (mostly about the ridiculous appearance of bustles). It fits well into the transitory period between picture books and longer chapter books. Black-and-white cartoon-style illustrations are randomly scattered throughout the book, giving the eyes something entertaining to look at as the mind plays with this funny story. With its humorous text and variety of characters, it will entertain both boys and girls who are curious about the past, present, and future.