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# Martin Bridge: Ready for Takeoff!

Patricia Castelli

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Kerrin, Jessica Scott. *Martin Bridge: Ready for Takeoff!* Illustrated by Joseph Kelly. Kids Can Press, 2005. ISBN 1553376889. \$14.95. 120 p.

Reviewer: Patricia Castelli

Reading Level: Primary

Rating: Excellent

Genre: Picture Book;

Subject: Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

This anthology is three stories within one cover, all featuring Martin. In the first story, *Riddles*, Martin is delighted by the riddles from the new bus driver, Jenny, who is substituting for grumpy Mr. Phips. How was Martin to know that the very day they surprise Jenny by decorating the bus, Mr. Phips is back--with surprising results? In the second story, Martin has lost his favorite toy, the "*Faster Blaster*." He explores problems with trust when parents lie to their children. In *Smithereens*, Martin deals with jealousy while making rockets for blast off with his scout troop. He's so used to being the center of attention for his artistic talent that he has a problem seeing his friend shine instead.