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Library Mouse

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Kirk, Daniel. *Library Mouse*. Illustrated by Daniel Kirk. Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2007. ISBN 978-0-8109-9346-4. \$15.95. [32] p.

Reviewer: Sandra L. Tidwell

Reading Level: Toddler, preschool, primary

Rating: Outstanding

Genre: Picture books;

Subject: Libraries—Juvenile fiction; Authorship—Juvenile fiction; Mice—Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews

Sam is a library mouse. At night he comes out of his little hole in the wall and reads to his heart's content. He likes to read all kinds of books: picture books, biographies, poetry, and mysteries. With so much information and ideas in his head, Sam decides to write a book and calls it *Squeak! A Mouse's Life*. He puts it on the shelf in the biography section and waits. Sure enough, the next day it is discovered by the children. In the nights that follow, Sam continues to write mouse-sized books. The librarian features one at library story time, and the children become anxious to meet Sam. Sam is too shy to meet the children, so he thinks up a unique solution for "Meet the Author" day.

Not many librarians would like it if a mouse was living in a hole in a wall by any of their collections, but they will all love the message Sam sends to young patrons—everyone can be an author! Writing is fun! Sam, who has read books about writing, emphasizes the best writing advice: "Write what you know!" After reading this book to children, give them mouse-sized books and pencils and your shelves will be "full of books written and illustrated by people who had never written a book before, telling stories that had never been told."