



2009

The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg

Pat Frade

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

BYU ScholarsArchive Citation

Frade, Pat (2009) "The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg," *Children's Book and Media Review*: Vol. 30 : Iss. 5 , Article 19.
Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr/vol30/iss5/19>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by the All 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.



Philbrick, Rodman. *The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg*. Blue Sky Press, 2009. ISBN 9780439668187. \$16.99. 224 p.

Reviewer: Pat Frade

Reading Level: Intermediate, Young adult

Rating: Excellent

Genre: Adventure stories;

Subject: Orphans--Juvenile fiction; Brothers--Juvenile fiction; Adventures and adventurers--Fiction; United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

The outrageous adventures of Homer P. Figg are set during 1863 and the American Civil War. Homer, age 12, and his brother Harold, age 17, live with Uncle Squinton, who treats them worse than their pigs. After Homer is caught eating the pigs' food, Harold stands up to Uncle Squinton and is sold to the U.S. Army. Homer runs away in search of Harold. While following Harold's tracks, Homer meets an unusual array of people: Jebediah Brewster and Mrs. Bean, who give Homer a lot of good food. Homer helps free some runaway slaves, then Mr. Willow accompanies Homer on his trip to New York, but Mr. Willow falls prey to a woman. Professor Fleabottom then finds Homer in New York where Homer becomes an attraction of the Professor's traveling medicine show. Homer is also accused of being a spy, has a close encounter with a hot air balloon, and witnesses the Battle of Gettysburg.

Rodman Philbrick is a master storyteller. *Homer P. Figg* is a quirky little novel that is funny with a plot that keeps moving. Young readers will enjoy this book while learning a little bit of history at the same time. This adventure received a 2010 Newbery Honor and is an American Library Association Notable Book for Young Readers.

Volume 30, no. 5 (May/June 2010)