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The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend

Tessa McMillan

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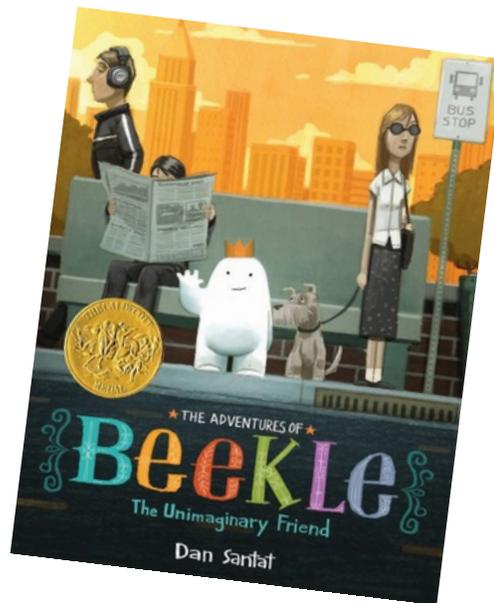
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Book Review

Title: The Adventure of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend
Author: Dan Santat
Reviewer: Tessa McMillan
Publisher: Little, Brown and Company
Publication Year: 2014
ISBN: 9780316199988
Number of Pages: 40
Interest Level: Toddler, Preschool
Rating: Outstanding



Review

On an island far away a white and rounded imaginary friend, Beekle, is created. Beekle follows the same protocol as other imaginary friends by waiting until a child imagines them over into the real world. But as time passes, all the friends are carried off, except him. Beekle decides to make the journey over into the real world to search for the child who needs him. It takes Beekle some time before he meets Alice. After an awkward introduction, the two become fast friends.

Santat creates a richly original story that reminds readers about the importance of imagination. For most children, their natural tendency is to imagine a friend who appreciates the things they enjoy. But sometimes, children's imaginations need a little help developing. This is the case for Beekle. When he finally meets Alice, their chance encounter ignites her imagination and leads them both into a close-knit friendship. This is a great book for parents, teachers, or librarians who are wanting to inspire children's imaginations. But along with Santat's story, he crafts a solid, colorful world using mixed-media illustrations and hand-lettered text. A priceless book that is worthy of it's 2014 Caldecott Medal.