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Boston Jane

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Book Review

Title: Boston Jane

Author: Jennifer L. Holm

Reviewer: Sydnee Burr

Publisher: Yearling

Publication Year: 2010

ISBN: 9780375862045

Number of Pages: 272

Interest Level: Intermediate, Young Adult

Rating: Outstanding



Review

Jane finds the propriety of Philadelphia society tiring. She wants to play, she wants to be silly, she wants to get her hands dirty, and she does not want to follow Lady Godey's Guidebook on how to be a young lady. When she receives an invitation from a handsome suitor to sail over to the Washington Territory and be his bride, Jane jumps at the opportunity, leaving all familiarity behind. When she arrives however, and her fiance is nowhere to be found, Jane must embark on her own life among the settlers, fur trappers, and Indians in the Washington Territory.

Jane is a role model. While showing that being a girl is not about to slow her down, and that she too is capable of doing hard things, she simultaneously encompasses all that is feminine. She constantly stands up for herself, yet swallows scrutiny when no other option is available. Prone to tantrums and bemoaning tragedy, as Jane learns from her trials, she encourages all that they too can learn to gracefully wade through difficulty.