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The Gollywhopper Games #3: Friend or Foe

Aylea Stephens

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Book Review

Title: The Gollywhopper Games #3: Friend or Foe
Author: Jody Feldman
Reviewer: Aylea Stephens
Publisher: Greenwillow Books
Publication Year: 2015
ISBN: 9780062211309
Number of Pages: 432
Interest Level: Intermediate
Rating: Excellent

Review

Zane isn’t that interested in the Gollywhopper Games. He is a football player, and his big dream is to play in the NFL until his second concussion prevents him from playing football for a year. He’s not sure what he’s going to be able to do with his life, so when he gets an opportunity to compete in the Gollywhopper Games, he decides to use his skills of determining strategy to win the Games to make up for not being able to play football. In these Gollywhopper Games, the challenges involve friends who can help them succeed and foes that make it more difficult, but the Gollywhopper officials are trying to find the foe in their midst that has been sabotaging the games. Zane makes friends and solves puzzles as he competes in the games.

While this book doesn’t have the novelty of the first Gollywhopper Games book, it continues to bring puzzles that readers can solve along with the main characters. Zane is different from the other main characters in the companion books, being more brawny than brainy but still using strategy and logic to figure out the puzzles. His friendship with Elijah is a fun aspect of the book, because even though the two characters have completely different hobbies and ways of looking at the world they are both able to work together while still recognizing each other as competitors. For fans of books where the readers get to solve the puzzles just as much as the main characters do, this book will not disappoint.