



## Children's Book and Media Review

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Pax

Jess Verzello

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# Book Review

**Title:** Pax

**Author:** Sara Pennypacker

**Illustrator:** Jon Klassen

**Reviewer:** Jess Verzello

**Publisher:** Balzer + Bray

**Publication Year:** 2016

**ISBN:** 9780062377012

**Number of Pages:** 304

**Interest Level:** Intermediate, Young Adult

**Rating:** Outstanding



## Review

Pax and his boy Peter are inseparable—that is until the oncoming war forces them apart. Before he reports to the front lines, Peter’s father is sending Peter off to live with his grandfather, but forces the boy to leave his fox behind in the forest where Pax will be “safe.” However, once apart, Peter discovers that leaving Pax was the worst decision of his life. He sets out on a journey to find his beloved other half; his determination fueled by love and loyalty. Even though Pax and Peter are apart, their connection is stronger than ever as they faithfully fight their own battles back to each other.

*Pax* represents the beauty of a bond between a child and his animal where friendship and love extend beyond all barriers. Creatively told from the perspective of both Peter and Pax, this story expands on the emotional insights and personal journeys each take in their path back to each other. Pax may be written for an intermediate audience, but an adult audience can also appreciate the deeper messages found in Peter’s journey. Jon Klassen’s various illustrations throughout the novel help illuminate and give life to this fantastic story of boy and fox. A highly recommended addition to any library—public or personal.

\*Contains contains mild violence.