



2017

The Dead Bird

Carlie Smith

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

BYU ScholarsArchive Citation

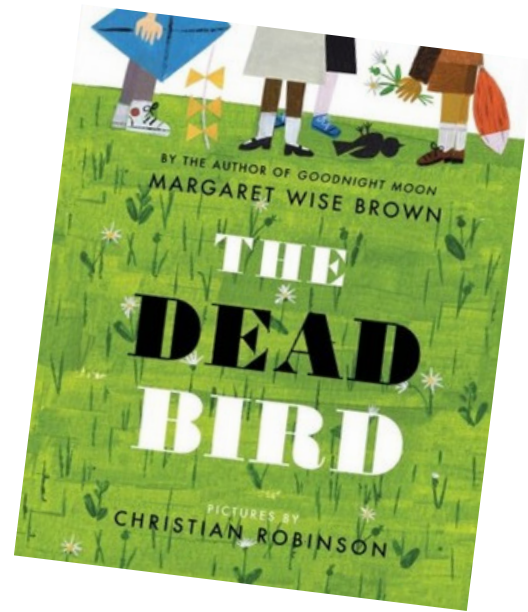
Smith, Carlie (2017) "The Dead Bird," *Children's Book and Media Review*: Vol. 38 : Iss. 5 , Article 31.

Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr/vol38/iss5/31>

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.

Book Review

Title: The Dead Bird
Author: Margaret Wise Brown
Illustrator: Christian Robinson
Reviewer: Carlie Smith
Publisher: Harper
Publication Year: 2016
ISBN: 978006289317
Number of Pages: 13
Interest Level: Toddler, Preschool
Rating: Excellent



Review

Children learn to love and mourn a dead bird they find at the park. They are glad that they can give it a funeral. They lovingly plant flowers and compose a song. They remain dedicated to tending the grave until they forget.

This deceptively simple book is another powerful story from the author of Goodnight Moon, Margaret Wise Brown. The repetition of the phrases, and sometimes illogical sentences capture the experience, reasoning, and feelings of young children. The kids in the story mimic with characteristic simplicity and sincerity the patterns of mourning that they've seen grown ups do. This edition of the book has been released with new illustrations. Robinson reinforces the childlike perspective with figures with forms that look as though kids have drawn them. The textures are expertly drawn with rich details. Parents may consider using this as a way to help children understand death and mourning.