



A Boy, a Mouse, and a Spider: The Story of E.B. White

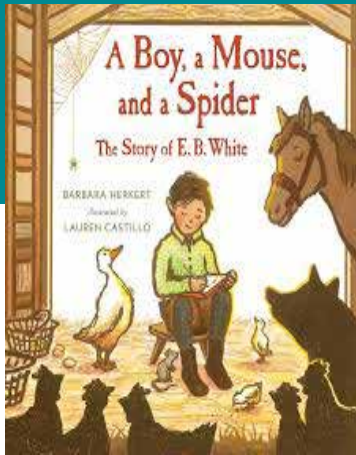
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Book Review

A Boy, a Mouse, and a Spider: The Story of E.B. White

E.B. White is known for his beloved children’s stories. This lyrical picture book tells the story of the man behind them, and how his life events — from befriendng a mouse while recovering from an illness as a child, to watching a spider spin in a corner of a barn — gave rise to the books we know and love. The mouse that White first met as a child and later encountered in a dream became Stuart Little, and White’s own farm experiences were the background for *Charlotte’s Web*.

Lyricaly written, Barbara Herckert’s biographical text perfectly captures the simplicity and meaning of E.B. White’s life. Watercolor illustrations give the book a cozy feel while also preserving accuracy of the people, places, and animals they depict. Though Herckert’s elegant word choice means there may be a few words with which children may be unfamiliar, the illustrations serve as excellent scaffolding for these words’ meanings. This book will remind young writers that the best inspiration for their stories may just be the world around them.

Author

Barbara Heckert

Illustrator

Lauren Castillo

Reviewer

Nicole Clark

Rating

Excellent

Level

Primary, Intermediate

Pages

40

Year

2017

Publisher

Henry Holt and Compa-

ISBN

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