



2018

Draw the Line

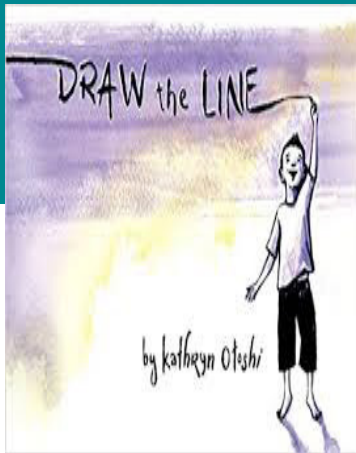
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Book Review

Draw the Line

Author

Kathryn Otoshi

Illustrator

Kathryn Otoshi

Reviewer

Taylor Harris

Rating

Outstanding

Level

Primary

Pages

48

Year

2017

Publisher

Roaring Brook Press

ISBN

9781596439252

Two boys are drawing lines when they accidentally bump into each other. What if, instead of two separate lines, they make one big one? They do and magic happens. They play with the line, and it's all fun and games until one boy accidentally pulls the other one down. He laughs, making the boy who fell mad. The angered boy yanks the line hard in retaliation. They pull and tug until suddenly the line snaps, creating a rift between them. After a few moments, the boys walk towards the end of the rift and find a way to turn the crack into a path. Friends again, they laugh and play, stronger together.

This beautiful picture book has no words, instead relying upon the emotive illustrations to tell the story. Otoshi uses black-and-white drawings with splashes of purple and yellow watercolor to create a beautiful depiction of friendship and what happens when friends experience rifts in their relationship. The lack of words creates a contemplative mood, making a powerful statement with art. This story explores limits and conflict, encouraging friendship and healing in the end. The reliance on art to communicate the emotion and the plotline of this story is creative and impressive. This character-building book is one that will captivate readers attention and have them poring over the pages again and again.