



2018

The Unlikely Story of a Pig in the City

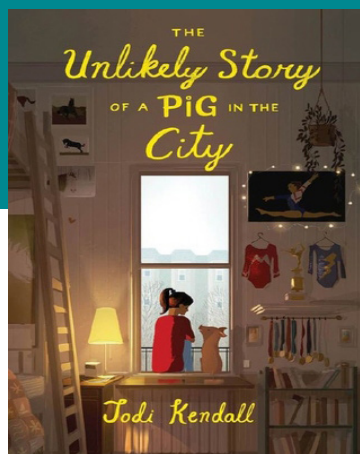
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Book Review

The Unlikely Story of a Pig in the City

Author

Jodi Kendall

Illustrator

Reviewer

Nicole Clark

Rating

Excellent

Level

Primary, Intermediate

Pages

336

Year

2017

Publisher

HarperCollins

ISBN

9780062484536

When Josie's older brother brings home a piglet, Josie falls in love immediately! Certain she can persuade her parents to let her keep the tiny pig as a pet, Josie promises she'll find a home for Hamlet the pig by New Year's Day. Taking care of her new pet makes Josie feel special in her large family and helps her handle challenges she faces in her home and on her gymnastics team. Josie begins to realize, however, that downtown Ohio is not an ideal place for a growing pig. She finds a way to give Hamlet the care he really needs.

A decidedly coming-of-age story, this book shows a young girl's determination and authenticity in the midst of everyday challenges. It handles these challenges lightly yet seriously, and tween readers will easily relate to Josie's plight. *The Unlikely Story of a Pig in the City* is highly reminiscent of the beloved favorite *Charlotte's Web*, and references to E.B. White's classic tale are made throughout the book. Readers who enjoyed *Charlotte and Wilbur's* tale of redemption will also love this new spin on an old favorite.