A Stitch in Time

Karen Abbott

Book Review

A Stitch in Time

Author
Daphne Kalmar

Illustrator

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Reviewer
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Rating
Excellent

Level
Primary, Intermediate

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Pages
176

Year
2018

Publisher
Feiwel & Friends

ISBN
9781250154989

Donut is adjusting to the recent death of her father when her maternal aunt announces that Donut will go home with her to Boston. Donut will have none of it. When her more conventional methods fail to persuade Aunt Agnes that she should stay, Donut determines to run away. A friendly neighbor has an abandoned cabin at the other end of a nearby pond, and Donut sets up house with the mice and a midnight bear for company. Her time in the cabin teaches her many things, perhaps most importantly that family belongs with family.

At first it may seem impossible to like a book whose main character has a ridiculous name like "Donut," but the story develops into an excellent first-person perspective on the anger and sense of loss that surrounds the death of a loved one. Donut is a very stubborn and independent girl, a heroine who can't be told what to do and must learn life's lessons the hard way. This is an especially good read for a young forceful personality with similarities to Donut or to anyone who is experiencing the anger phase of grief.