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### A Snicker of Magic

Becky Jamieson

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## Book Review

### A Snicker of Magic

#### Author

Natalie Lloyd

#### Illustrator

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#### Reviewer

Becky Jamieson

#### Rating

Outstanding

#### Level

Intermediate

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#### Pages

311

#### Year

2014

#### Publisher

Scholastic Press

#### ISBN

9780545552707

There was a time when Midnight Gulch was known for its magic. That, however, was long before Felicity, her little sister, and her wandering mother move to town. Now all the magic left in the town is a small snicker, and of course the Beetle—a person who goes around town performing anonymous good deeds. Felicity loves what she finds in Midnight Gulch. She loves her aunt and uncle as well as her best friend Jonah. This is her first real home and she is determined to stay. She works hard and manages to break the curse on the town and her mother so that they can all live there happily.

This book combines fun small magics with good Christian virtues, such as charity. The characters have faith-building experiences while they are trying to undo the old magic that hurt the town. It is a unique partnership of faith and fantasy and enables the book to be enjoyed by a wider range of readers. Many people young and old will like reading this because it is both fun and uplifting. The book has strong messages about the importance of friends and family. Also, it can inspire people to work hard and overcome their fears the same way the main character does in her life. The characters have believable problems in their lives, such as having an absent father and being afraid of a new school. Magic cannot solve these problems, but the book shows how love and friendship can make a place a home.