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The Train to Impossible Places # 1: A Cursed Delivery

Becky Jamieson

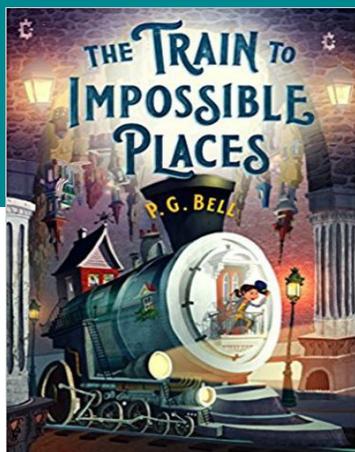
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Book Review

The Train to Impossible Places #1: A Cursed Delivery

Author

P. G. Bell

Illustrator

Matt Sharack

Reviewer

Becky Jamieson

Rating

Excellent

Level

Intermediate

Pages

364

Year

2018

Publisher

Feiwei and Friends

ISBN

9781250189509

Suzy loves physics. With it Suzy can make sense of the world. However, that changes when the magical trolls running the Impossible Postal Express use her house as a shortcut. Suzy then finds beauty in all of the worlds she visits in the Union of Impossible Places while on the magical postal train. Meeting many new people she also makes many new friends as well as a few enemies. Crepuscula, a powerful witch, chases Suzy and Frederick, a boy she rescues, in an attempt to recapture Frederick. In the end however, Suzy realizes that Crepuscula is not evil, but is in fact trying to prevent the takeover of the Union of magical worlds from the Meridian. Suzy, with help from Crepuscula and her troll friends, stop the Meridian and thereby save the worlds. Although, when Suzy goes home, she cannot wait for her next magical adventure.

A major theme of this book is the idea of doing what is right and being honest. Suzy tries to make good choices. However, there are times when she does not know what is the right thing to do. When she makes bad choices, for example telling lies to her friends, she feels guilty. All of these examples show the theme of the book, but the best example of it is near the end of the book when she keeps a promise even though it is difficult. Because of this theme this book could be used to teach the importance of having a moral compass, but it could also be use to discuss the basics of physics. Ideas such as Newton's laws, and the force of gravity are touched on in fun ways in this book if only briefly. For example, teaching gravity becomes much more fun if the teacher can show a false example in the book of magic being used to change the direction of down.

*Contains mild violence with magic, trains, and moving statues.