



2019

The Long, Long Letter

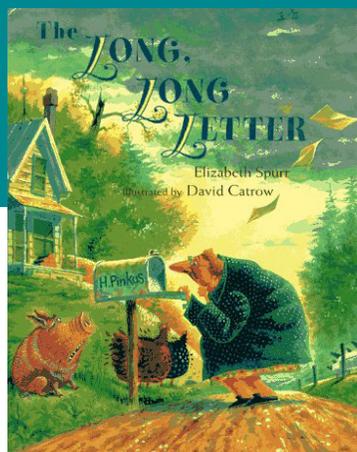
Karen Abbott

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr>

BYU ScholarsArchive Citation

Abbott, Karen (2019) "The Long, Long Letter," *Children's Book and Media Review*: Vol. 40 : Iss. 4 , Article 13.
Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr/vol40/iss4/13>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by the All Journals at BYU ScholarsArchive. It has been accepted for inclusion in Children's Book and Media Review by an authorized editor of BYU ScholarsArchive. For more information, please contact scholarsarchive@byu.edu, ellen_amatangelo@byu.edu.



Book Review

The Long, Long Letter

Elderly Hetta is lonely. Hetta writes a letter to her niece and asks for a letter. The obliging niece sets herself at the table with a good old fashioned plume and writes a letter that is pages and pages and boxes of pages in length. When she has no more paper to write on, she sends it off with the postman. A fierce wind sweeps her letter out of the boxes and causes a swirling snowstorm of sheaves that circles the patient Aunt Hetta and buries her, her mailbox, and the entire farm. People swarm from miles around to see this phenomena and to help her gather the sheets. Aunt Hetta isn't lonely anymore.

This is a wonderful story that shows the loneliness often experienced by older people who are isolated and cannot get out to meet friends or visit family. Her family steps up to the plate and her niece's lengthy correspondence brings her aunt the company that she needs. The story deserves merit but the real strength of the book are the humorous and rustic illustrations. The colors are bright and fun and the style is cartoon-ish. Exaggerated features and good old tall tale story telling combine in rhyme for a delightful reading experience with smiles on every page.

Author

Elizabeth Spurr

Illustrator

David Catrow

Reviewer

Karen Abbott

Rating

Excellent

Level

Preschool, Primary

Pages

32

Year

1996

Publisher

Hyperion

ISBN

9780786801275