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Hazel and Twig: The Birthday Fortune

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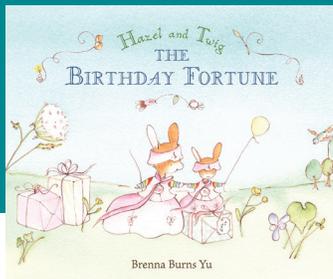
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Book Review

Hazel and Twig: The Birthday Fortune



Author

Brenna Burns Yu

Illustrator

Brenna Burns Yu

Reviewer

Cynthia Phillips

Rating

Excellent

Level

Preschool, Primary

Pages

39

Year

2018

ISBN

9780763689704

Publisher

Candlewick Press

Hazel loves looking out for her baby sister Twig. Twig follows Hazel everywhere as they prepare for Twig's first birthday party. All the mice families are invited to Twig's first birthday. There Twig will pick her birthday fortune, also known as her doljabi. At her party they will put out several items and she will have the chance to pick just one. What she picks will tell a bit about her life. As the party is approaching everyone is busy with preparations, including making Twig's beautiful dress and traditional foods and decor. The whole family arrives in anticipation of what Twig will choose. They are quite pleased with what she chooses and what her doljabi says about her future.

This book has lovely, dainty artwork that gives the feel of living in the delicate mouse world. Watercolor and pastel colors add to the serene landscape of the story. The tale is written in such a way that it is a peaceful but exciting read. The tradition of the doljabi comes from Korea. This story includes many Korean traditions. While reading this book, children can learn about a different culture. Many families who do this birthday tradition will enjoy learning where it first started. The family dynamics are so sweet and wholesome. It is definitely a book that recommended for families with little girls and for learning about birthday traditions. It's also a wonderful pick for studying cultures.