



2019

Maybe Tomorrow?

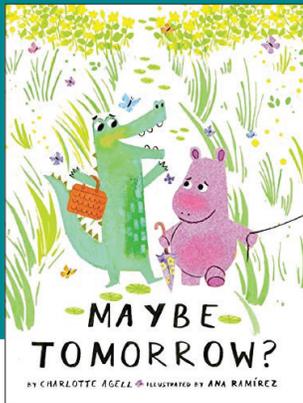
Krista Alletto

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

BYU ScholarsArchive Citation

Alletto, Krista (2019) "Maybe Tomorrow?," *Children's Book and Media Review*. Vol. 40: Iss. 10, Article 19.
Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr/vol40/iss10/19>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by the 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 ellen_amatangelo@byu.edu.



Book Review

Maybe Tomorrow?

Author

Charlotte Agell

Illustrator

Ana Ramirez Gonzalez

Reviewer

Krista Alletto

Rating

Excellent

Level

Preschool, Primary

Pages

40

Year

2019

ISBN

9781338214888

Publisher

Scholastic Press

Elba has a heavy, dark block that she carries around with her wherever she goes. Norris has a bright picnic basket ready for sharing and is followed by a flurry of butterflies wherever he goes. Norris tries to get Elba to go on outings with him, but Elba declines because she has a hard time dragging the block around. The more he befriends Elba, the smaller her block gets. Eventually, she agrees to go to the ocean with Norris, where, to their amazement, the block becomes smaller yet again. With a lighter block, Elba decides that she can go on outings with Norris and have fun without reservation.

Maybe tomorrow? is a thoughtful and sentimental book that addresses the feelings of grief and sadness that are normal after the loss of a friend or family member. The book also highlights that empathy and friendship can help us process and heal from grief. The illustrations are bright and colorful, which serve to present a somber topic for children in a lighter, more approachable way. However, some of the writing seemed disjointed, which disrupted the flow of the book. For example, when Elba asks Norris how to let the sadness out of the box, Norris thinks about it, and replies “maybe tomorrow.” This is an ambiguous response that may confuse young readers. Despite some issues with the text, the overall theme and presentation of the book is heartwarming and thoughtful, making it a great book to read with children who have experienced loss.