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Marley and the Great Easter Egg Hunt

Jana Carter

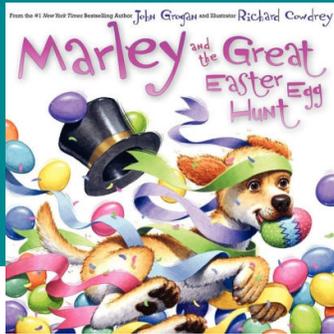
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Book Review

Marley and the Great Easter Egg Hunt

Author

John Grogan

Illustrator

Richard Cowdrey

Reviewer

Jana Carter

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Rating

Excellent

Level

Preschool, Primary

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Pages

32

Year

2013

ISBN

9780062125248

Publisher

Harper

Marley is at it again! The lovable Labrador can't seem to stay out of trouble, and the trip to the town Easter egg hunt is no exception. When Marley and his girl Cassie arrive at the town square, they find it bustling with Easter cheer and decorations. The hunt is about to begin! When Marley hears that the winner must find the biggest, most special egg, he is determined. He will be the one to win. Sniffing from place to place, his nose directs him to several Easter eggs. Sadly, other children take them before he has the chance. Discouraged, he turns to Cassie, who suggests they find another place to look. The pair barrel through the town, crashing through stores and bakeries, but they can't find the egg. The Easter egg hunt comes to an end. Marley, disappointed, turns back to the gathered crowd. Luck is on his side though, and there's one more place to look. Marley can be a winner after all!

John Grogan shared a lovable, endearing character when he chose to write stories about his dog Marley. As this story unfolds, it is easy to feel the emotions portrayed by the characters. A high-strung sense of urgency, followed by an undertone of dread follows the characters as they chase Marley through one catastrophe to another. The illustrations help to keep the mood light-hearted and happy throughout the tale. The characters are drawn with open, smiling faces, which helps to evoke the excitement of the day. Marley's antics are merely small frustrations, but are soon forgotten in the celebrations of the day. The bright colors add to the festive feeling of the story. Marley's family members are patient, kind, and loving to each other and to their four-legged friend as they spend quality family time celebrating Easter together. Children will love the feeling of excitement, both for the holiday and for the dog that has become a dear friend.