



2020

A Friend for Dragon

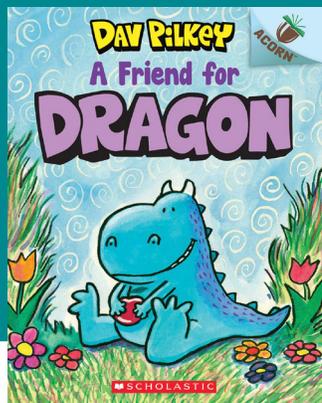
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Book Review

A Friend for Dragon

Author

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Illustrator

Dav Pilkey

Reviewer

Emily Loveless

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Rating

Dependable

Level

Primary

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Pages

64

Year

2019

ISBN

9781338341058

Publisher

Scholastic Inc

Dragon is feeling lonely, but everyone is too busy, too tired, and too grouchy to be his friend. That is, until he finds the apple. The apple is a great friend, a good listener, likes to eat as much as Dragon, and knows how to share. But the next morning the apple doesn't wake up, so Dragon takes him to see the doctor where it is reduced to a core. Soon Dragon realizes that the apple won't get better. He has lost his only friend, and Dragon is very sad. But he doesn't stay sad forever. He soon goes outside again, and finds a whole tree full of apples in his own front yard.

A Friend for Dragon is a simple and quick-moving story that will be easy for young readers to read and understand. Dragon's friendship with the apple teaches simple, poignant lessons about friendship and seeing the value and worth in others, even in unusual circumstances. The bright illustrations are engaging and whimsical to match the main character. They also help to brighten what turns out to be a rather morbid turn in the story. After the apple has died, Dragon is described having specific and strong symptoms of depression, such as crying every day, loss of appetite, and not leaving his house for a long time. The abrupt realism of Dragon digging a grave and making a tombstone for the apple might take some readers by surprise, but could provide a good starting point to talk about grief and loss with young children.