



## Children's Book and Media Review

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**Douglas**

Emily Loveless

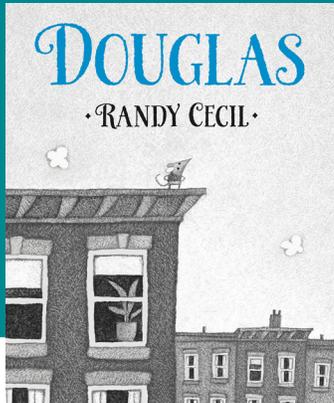
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## Book Review

# Douglas

### Author

Randy Cecil

### Illustrator

Randy Cecil

### Reviewer

Emily Loveless

### Rating

Excellent

### Level

Primary, Intermediate

### Pages

120

### Year

2019

### ISBN

9780763633974

### Publisher

Candlewick

Iris Espinosa never expected to befriend a mouse at the cinema, much less to have it fall asleep in her sweater pocket and come home with her. Such a friendly and daring mouse deserves a fitting name, and so Douglas was named after Iris's favorite movie hero, Douglas Fairbanks. Soon enough, Douglas must live up to the reputation of her namesake by evading hysterical humans, a persistent and hungry neighborhood cat, a lonely friendless boy, and navigating her way across the gulfs of alleyways to find her way back to the cinema and its delicious popcorn. Things only get direr when Douglas finds herself in a building surrounded by a whole pack of cats. But with a new friend to rescue and the unwitting assistance of a passerby's broad-brimmed hat, two mice are finally able to reach their destination and reunite with Iris.

This book's unexpected and daring heroine quickly pulls readers into a fast-paced adventure of small but enthralling proportions. Cecil manages to convey a wonderful variety of emotions, from courage to resolution to resourcefulness, so you can't help but root for Douglas. The illustrative style is nostalgic with its black and white color scheme, fitting for the time period and the movies that Iris so enjoys. Douglas' harrowing adventure takes the characteristics of a big-screen star and couches them in a more relatable context, pitting her own determination and optimism against the fatalism of her new friend. Readers will be able to identify with the struggles and desires of the characters in the book. This is a good pick for young middle-grade readers, both for content and the engaging nature of the graphic novel format.