



2020

Goodbye Winter, Hello Spring

Nicole Clark

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Clark, Nicole (2020) "Goodbye Winter, Hello Spring," *Children's Book and Media Review*. Vol. 41: Iss. 9, Article 11.

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Book Review

Goodbye Winter, Hello Spring



Author

Kenard Pak

Illustrator

Kenard Pak

Reviewer

Nicole Clark

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Rating

Significant Shortcomings

Level

Preschool

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Pages

32

Year

2020

ISBN

9781250151728

Publisher

Henry Holt and Co.

In that wonderful in-between time as winter turns to spring, a young boy and his dog take a walk through the snow, by a frozen pond, and under sycamore branches. As they walk, they engage in conversation with various aspects of the winter world around them. As morning dawns, spring comes, and they excitedly say hello to new leaves, waking animals, green grass, and a running pond.

In the last of a series of season-change books, Pak's captivating watercolor and pencil artwork shows the transition from winter to spring. Unfortunately, the text has several issues. The book's call-and-response format is not immediately obvious. It can take several pages to notice subtle indentations that the author uses to show that the voice has switched. It can also be difficult to tell which voice is speaking. While the book's expectation is that the story will be about the transition from winter to spring, it is not until three-quarters of the way through the book that signs of spring are mentioned. The shift to spring occurs in a single page that talks about slush and snow, making this book more about winter with a few pages of spring.