2016

Bink and Gollie

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Bink and Gollie are two inseparable, roller-skating, adventure-taking friends; but they are also both very different. In this charming beginner’s chapter book, DiCamillo and McGhee tell three stories of Bink and Gollie and how they compromise so that they are both happy. Flamboyant socks, far-away adventures in the Andes, and a new fishy friend are the center of the three separate chapters. In the end Bink and Gollie, despite their differences, realize that their friendship is really something special for the both of them.

DiCamillo and McGhee use inventive dialogue to tell the funny stories of these two girls. The dialogue is well-worded, often filled with a good mixture of easy and more difficult words. Fucile’s inventive images accompany the text flawlessly. He frames the colorful Bink and Gollie—and a few key objects or people—in pencil-like grays and blacks, highlighting the most important elements in an attempt to assist the reader in understanding the text. Despite the engaging text and charismatic images, I was let down that the story did not build as the chapters went on. Instead, each chapter is its own separate story, nearly independent of the story that preceded it. However, overall, this book was immensely delightful.