



Max and Marla

Alexandra Boiger

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Two fearless Olympians sled to victory in this delightful new picture book

Max and Marla are best friends. And aspiring Olympians! With their eyes on the prize, they know exactly what it'll take to reach sledding success: preparation, practice and perseverance. So when rusty blades, strong winds and difficult slopes get in their way, Max and Marla realize true joy lies not in winning but in friendship. Obstacles turn into victories!

With delightful illustrations and charming text, Alexandra Boiger brings to life the story of two unstoppable pals—true Olympians who never give up!

Max and Marla Details

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Author : Alexandra Boiger

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From Reader Review Max and Marla for online ebook

Viviane Elbee says

Great book for Winter Olympic fans and sledding fans, as well as owl fans.

It's a funny story although it does not really have the Olympics in it, only a boy and his owl who believe they are Olympians.

Kids really enjoyed it.

Emily says

A simple picture book about a girl and an owl who are aspiring to be Winter Olympians. Good especially with a limit of Olympic-themed picture books. Simple text and pictures but some complicated/ implied meanings.

Leona says

cutest pictures-shows how to be a great friend-and overcome obstacles. so sweet.

George says

Apparently the author has eavesdropped into my childhood with my brother. We were "real-life honest to goodness, cross your heart, ... Olympians."

Lessons learned:

Preparation is key (and modifications are perfectly fine too).

Technical difficulties are a fact of life. Tend to them and never give up.

Teamwork...sometimes our roles are different, but how great it is being on the same team.

Never give up (and intermissions of taking care of yourself is part of the process).

VICTORY! --- If you ever doubted you'd get there, this book will remind you what you really knew from the start: You are a "real-life honest to goodness, cross your heart ...Olympian"! YOU GOT THIS!

Amy Rhilinger says

adorable. Some of the illustrations made me tear up.

Katie says

Very cute picture book. Good one to recommend for people interested in books about the Olympics. Probably a tricky one for storytime because there are a lot of smaller illustrations where the progression of time and activity is implied.

Becky says

Max and Marla are true Olympians. They take careful, meticulous steps to make sure everything is in order each time they practice. No matter what, they persevere... even if persevering means taking a sick day and trying again tomorrow!

Loved this one! Great lessons about not rushing through things, taking the time to care for your things-- and yourself, and turning obstacles into victories. Plus, the digitally enhanced ink and watercolor illustrations are *adorable*.

Amy Wasson says

Adorable and beautiful animation

MJ says

I loved this book. Max's optimism is so encouraging and the fact that Marla doesn't speak is so refreshing.

Yolanda says

Love the illustrations and the persistence of the characters. Learning from what they did and trying to make is better.

Heydi Smith says

A fantastic tale about determination and perseverance. A young one and a pet owl try time and again to go sledding, each time facing a new obstacle and overcoming it.

I would use this in a snow, sled, owl, or determination storytime. I wouldn't say it would be my first choice but it's pretty cute.

Kris - My Novelesque Life says

MAX AND MARLA

Written and Illustrated by Alexandra Boiger

2015, 32 Pages

Genre: picture book, children's

★★★★1/2

Max and his owl, Marla are determined to be Olympians and they prep their sled and go out to practice. When they fail they brush themselves off and go back to the drawing board and get ready to go out again.

Yes, I am owl obsessed but OMG what adorable pictures of Marla and Max! I really enjoyed this cute story with a big message. We are so focused on making children feel special and unique that we seem to be building them up for failure. Yet, if we prep them for failure and how to keep going when things don't work out we send a greater message and prepare them for more (in my opinion). I love how Max does not give up when things go wrong. BUT love how this does not get him down at all. He's disappointed but is quick to move on. I recommend this book to everyone. It is a feel good story that will cause anyone to have a better day!

(My Novelesque Life)

My Novelesque Life

Abigail says

Best friends Max and Marla are determined sledders in this engaging winter-time picture-book from author/artist Alexandra Boiger. Although they encounter numerous challenges, from rusty sled blades to colds, they persevere, turning obstacles into victories like true Olympic champions.

I have enjoyed Alexandra Boiger's artwork in Marilyn Singer's *Tallulah* books, about a young would-be ballerina, so I was excited to pick up Max and Marla, her debut as both author and illustrator. The narrative here is engaging enough, spinning a tale of friendship and passion for sledding, but it is the artwork that really spoke to me. I enjoy winter scenes, so it stands to reason that I'd like the visuals here, but Boiger's watercolor artwork just has a certain insouciant charm to it, that I find very appealing. Marla, Max's owl friend, is particularly cute! Recommended to anyone looking for fun winter-time stories, or picture-books addressing the themes of friendship and perseverance.

SLoMoe says

We liked the illustrations better than the story.

Lucia says

The illustrations are delightful as Max and Marla, boy and owl, become olympic sledders. Simple text but rich pictures make for good conversations. thank you Alexander Boiger.

It crossed my path at the perfect time, with the Winter Olympics going on right now. Love it!
