



The Girl and the Bicycle

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From the creator of *The Boy and the Airplane*, a touching wordless picture book about a little girl, a shiny bicycle, and the meaning of persistence—with an unexpected payoff.

A little girl sees a shiny new bicycle in the shop window. She hurries home to see if she has enough money in her piggy bank, but when she comes up short, she knocks on the doors of her neighbors, hoping to do their yardwork. They all turn her away except for a kindly old woman.

The woman and the girl work through the seasons, side by side. They form a tender friendship. When the weather warms, the girl finally has enough money for the bicycle. She runs back to the store, but the bicycle is gone! What happens next shows the reward of hard work and the true meaning of generosity.

Wordless, timeless, and classic, *The Girl and the Bicycle* carries a message of selflessness and sweet surprises and makes an ideal gift for graduations and other special occasions.

The Girl and the Bicycle Details

Date : Published April 29th 2014 by Simon Schuster Books for Young Readers

ISBN : 9781442483194

Author : Mark Pett

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From Reader Review *The Girl and the Bicycle* for online ebook

Clare Cannon says

This one's a keeper, the kind of picture book you want on your family bookshelf for years to come.

A beautiful, pictures-only story of hard work and kindness has been turned into a timeless classic by the naive, old-fashioned illustrations that speak straight to the heart.

So many special things jump out: a little girl's affection for her younger brother shown even in the way she holds his hand; the subtle humour in the images with little brother popping up in random places; the girl's ingenuity and hard work in earning money; the little boy's oblivion to the purpose of their quest but his sister's care that he be included; the little girl soldiering on in spite of disappointment and managing to think of others; and on top of everything the fact that the object of the girl's aspirations is a good old-fashioned bike and not some other useless gizmo.

And for sentimental types like me, it definitely passed the tearjerker test.

www.GoodReadingGuide.com

Shelley says

Can a book get more than 5 stars? What a wonderful heart-felt story. Also loved the tiny shout out to Pett's other book: *The Boy and the Airplane*.

Sara says

Super. Sweet. I love wordless books, and I loved that she worked so hard for her dream and when she couldn't realize it she bought something for her little brother who was her constant companion. Her thoughtfulness and kind heart was rewarded. Love lit at its finest.

David Schaafsma says

Of the children's picture books nominated for the Goodreads awards this year, this is my favorite so far. It's a wordless book simply illustrated, with heart. The drawing is obviously hand drawn and doesn't have the wit and sophistication of some of the others, but this one has the most heart. It has some Chaplin and *Gift of the Magi* sweetness in it, for sure, and similar moves. A girl wants a bicycle. How will she get it? Sweet, even a little moving. I liked it very much.

Heather says

you guys. THE FEELS. TEARS. love.

Julie says

Excellent in so many ways, but if you have read, "The boy and the airplane" and pay attention to one particular illustration (hint: it's the only one with red instead of green), you will probably cry.

Sharon Barrow Wilfong says

A beautiful story told without words. Adults and children will love discussing what is transpiring on each page.

The illustrations are so expressive and even adorable.

A little girl is walking past a toy store with her little brother when she sees a beautiful green bicycle. She must have it, but she doesn't have enough money to buy it. What can she do?

She decides to work for it. After several tries she finally meets a lady who hires her to help around her house. The illustrations show how she helps through the year and if she gets enough money for her bicycle.

There are a few turns and surprises which make the story all the more sweet.

Mischenko says

To see this and other wordless picture book reviews, please visit www.readrantrockandroll.com

The Girl and the Bicycle by Mark Pett is a wordless picture book for children about a young girl and a new found goal.

As she walks with her little brother, she happens to see a bicycle in a shop window. She scurries home to see how much money she's saved and soon realizes she'll have to find a way to raise the money. She meets a nice lady who could use some help, and once she's earned enough money to purchase the bicycle, she heads back to the shop. Follow along in the story to discover a new friendship and find out if her dreams for a new bicycle come true.

This is a simply illustrated book with a powerful message of selflessness. This story is great for all and I highly recommend it.

5*****

Caroline says

This is a picture book in the literal sense: it uses only pictures to tell its story, like the childhood favorite of many, *The Snowman*. The colorless illustrations (save *the* bicycle, which is green), are quietly beautiful, clean, and easy to follow. The story also--and most notably--has a pleasant old-time feel to it; the girl covets a simple bicycle; she counts money from a piggy bank; she sets up a lemonade stand and does chores for neighbors; she resembles a young Olive Oyl--all of this portrayed in a sepia color scheme.

There are excellent morals here, and they've been told countless times before, so in that sense *The Girl and The Bicycle* is unoriginal; however, what is in, in spades, is moving, and it most certainly is memorable for so many reasons, not least of which is because it packs such a punch without a single word.

Final verdict: A must-read-now probably most suitable for children ages 4-6.

Philip says

We loved this book. Loved it, loved it. I checked it out of the library quite a few weeks ago, and it is long overdue. I've only read it to the girls twice though.

I asked Poppy (3) if she wanted to write her first review about the book with me, and she said, "YES!!!" Right after that, Liz told me she loved the book, and has read it with the kids a whole bunch of times - and that it's Gwennie's favorite book that we have from the library right now. I almost invited her along for the review, but she's down practicing piano.

Poppy: That's a lot. A lot a lotta writing, Daddy.

Dad: Hey, hold on, Poppy. Are you ready to start?

Poppy: Mm-Hmmm!

Dad: Did you like the book? Did you like the bicycle book?

Poppy: Mm-Hmmm!

(She was holding another book, and trying to tell me about it. I just handed her this one.)

Dad: What is this book?

Poppy: The bicycle.

Dad: What's the book about?

Poppy: The bicycle went away. Yeah. And the the (view spoiler)

This one. (Points to the bike on the cover.) She wanted this bicycle. And she wanted to (view spoiler)

Poppy: Are we done?

Dad: Almost. How many stars do you think we should give it?

Poppy: We should give it a lot. A lot.

Dad: We should give it a lot?

Poppy: Mm-Hmm.

Dad: We can give it one, two, three, four, or five.

Poppy: (Whispers loudly): I WANT FIVE!

Dad: You want five?

Poppy: Five.

Dad: Do you want to say anything else?

Poppy: I want to say I love it. That's it.

Whitney Rachel says

SUCH A GREAT STORY. I had goosebumps by the end, not entirely sure if that's because of the temp in the room or if the story was just that heart-warming.

Adashia Richardson says

Text-To Teaching

The girl and the Bicycle is a word-less book that can be used for children to tell their own story. By looking at the pictures students will give their account of what is taking place. Students will be able to see the story shape through their words, which can be used as a motivational tool for beginning readers. This reading activity will be recorded on chart paper, and posted in the classroom.

Niki (Daydream Reader) says

My new favorite wordless picture book! It made me tear up at the end. I loved every page..but the last 2 pages are the best.

Emily Hofmann says

Her eyes are on the prize: the shiny green bicycle in the storefront window. Determined to have the bike has her own, the little girl sets out to earn enough money to buy the coveted bike. She searches the couch cushions, opens a lemonade stand, and rakes the leaves from the yard. One friendly neighbor admires the girl's hard work and provides odd jobs to help her earn the money. As the Fall leaves turn to snow, the girl finally earns enough money to buy the bicycle! She proudly bounds back to the store, but what she discovers when she gets there is shocking. Read *The Girl and the Bicycle* to find out the girl's discovery, and if her dreams of owning the beautiful bicycle will come true.

The wonderful thing about this story is that it can be interpreted in many ways because it is a wordless picture book. I use this story to teach my second-grade class how to use a storyteller's voice in narrative writing. It is so interesting to see how they tell the story differently each year. Pictures can tell such a detailed story if we just look closely.

Laura says

I'm not a huge reader of wordless stories for kids. My reads usually need words to whisper, giggle, and tickle the audience. I've only come across a few over the years that captured my imagination and love. *The Girl and the Bicycle* by Mark Pett can be added to that short list. This book hit me right in the heart!

Mr. Pett pulled me in with quiet, simple, plain illustrations of a girl and her plan to earn enough money to buy a bike. A bicycle she has been eyeing in the store window all year. Determination and patience and goodness shine on every page. This story has HUGE heart!

You have to see what this hard working, persistent girl does with her money. She made me proud and so heart happy. :)

Recommended.
