

The Boy Who Loved Words



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Synopsis

In this Parents' Choice Gold Award-winning book, Selig collects words, ones that stir his heart (Mama!) and ones that make him laugh (giggle). But what to do with so many luscious words? After helping a poet find the perfect words for his poem (lozenge, lemon, and licorice), he figures it out: His purpose is to spread the word to others. And so he begins to sprinkle, disburse, and broadcast them to people in need.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD780L (What's this?)

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 65 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #15,354 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #69 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Social Skills](#) #91 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Stories In Verse](#) #974 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

Grade 1-4-Schotter blends magical realism with a tongue-tingling narrative to create an ode to the power and purpose of language. Selig is passionate about words-their sounds (tintinnabulating!), their taste (tantalizing!), and the way they moved his heart. An avid word-hoarder, he delights in discovering new terms, recording them on paper scraps, and stowing them in pockets. Unable to comprehend their son's strange predilection, his practical-minded parents worry about his future, and his classmates cruelly add oddball to his collection. After dreaming about a Yiddish Genie who advises him to embrace his passion and seek his life's poipose, Selig embarks on a journey of self-discovery. Feeling weighted down by his vocabulary slips, he climbs a tree and carefully attaches them to the branches. Fantastically and fittingly, several of them blow into the hands of a

poet who is struggling for the right adjectives to finish his verse. Selig realizes that his mission is to bestow his word wealth upon others. He tosses out luscious to accentuate a baker's wares, halts an argument with harmony, and invigorates an elderly man with spry. He grows up to find personal fulfillment and even true love. The author shares her own affection for language through the descriptive, lyrical text, italicizing particularly delectable but possibly unfamiliar terms and defining them in a two-page glossary. Potter's folk-art paintings echo the story's whimsy and set the action in an idyllic-looking, early-20th-century past. An inspiring choice for young wordsmiths and anyone who cherishes the variety and vitality of language.-Joy Fleishhacker, School Library Journal
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Gr. 2-4. Some people collect shells or stones; young Selig collects words. Whenever he hears a new one he likes, he jots it down on a slip of paper and stuffs it into a convenient pocket, a sock, a sleeve, or a hat. When you're a kid, such eccentric behavior doesn't go unnoticed, and soon his classmates have given him a new name, "Wordsworth," and a new word to add to his collection, oddball. Ouch! But with the help of a friendly genie, who calls him "Voidsvoith, a lover of voids," Selig finds his life's purpose and romance, to boot. Potter's signature naive-style art is light and comical, while Schotter's words are a lovely celebration of the power and the music of language. A glossary of Selig's favorite words--from aflutter to windmill--adorns the book's endpapers. Michael Cart
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Got this for my grandson who is almost 5. Teaches kids new words- some I need to look up before I read the book to him! :) It may be geared to a child little older Or just a little more advanced.

I bought this book as a mentor text to use to kick off our vocabulary unit and also to talk about using colorful vocabulary in our writing. The story is about a boy who loves and collect words and it is a great book for teaching new vocabulary to students. Very cute story!

Such a fun book! I ordered a copy for my classroom, and sent a copy to my grandchildren along with blank journals for their word collections.

I love how the author seenlessly incorporates "big words" into sentences that students can identify the meaning through context clues. The sentence works and as they are reading, kids come to the

"big word" but kind of understand it due to the creative writing and pictures! A must read when helping students move from lower level academic and social language, to upper academic and social language!!!!

As described -- fast shipping -- thank you!!

Fun book with great words.

This was a great book for building curiosity about new words. My 5th graders enjoyed it and were inspired to begin collecting their own new words.

This book is so amazing as a central text for a book study. It not only opens up a great dialogue about words and how they can be used and what they mean to our society but it also has the social emotional component. My students explored such issues as bullying, loneliness, friendship and love. You can get so much out of this book in your classroom.

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