



That Neighbor Kid

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Acclaimed author/illustrator Daniel Miyares returns to the sweet, nostalgic tone of his beloved illustrated book, *Float*, in this gorgeous, spare picture book about making a new friend.

There's a new boy in the neighborhood, and he's up to something very curious. His next door neighbor, a girl his age with two long braids, peeps around corners and watches as he scavenges wood from the fence between their houses, drags around a hammer and a bucket of nails, and reads a book about living in trees. When she finally works up the courage to say "hi," she finds herself invited to help build the private getaway every child has dreamed of: a tree house. She also finds herself with a new best friend.

That Neighbor Kid Details

Date : Published May 9th 2017 by Simon Schuster Books for Young Readers (first published 2017)

ISBN : 9781481449793

Author : Daniel Miyares

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Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Fiction

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From Reader Review That Neighbor Kid for online ebook

Earl says

In this nearly wordless picture book, a curious girl wonders what the neighbor boy is up to. Not only does she find an answer but a new friendship as well.

Desiree says

What is the new neighbor doing? One inquisitive girl gathers her courage to find out. She discovers the new neighbor is building a tree house and offers her help. The illustrations in this book are used brilliantly to show both the careful building of a tree house and a friendship. At the beginning of the story the illustrations are black and white. As the story progresses and the friendship grows subtle hints of color are introduced into the narrative. Good book for book walks and one on one reading.

Ana Calabresi says

Gorgeously illustrated.

Roben says

In this almost wordless book, a young girl watches a neighbor boy take apart a wooden fence. She follows him to see what he is up to and discovers he is building a treehouse. She offers to help - he seems unsure at first but then welcomes her - and a new friendship is born. This is a beautiful book that is illustrated in black and white until the first glimmer of friendship appears - and the illustrator adds a bit of color to each page as the friendship grows.

Margie says

Even if you have a fear of heights, once you arrive and enter everything changes. The small space, four walls with perhaps a single door, a single window and a roof to keep out the weather, is a place where memories lasting a lifetime are created. Wishes are spoken aloud. Promises are made. Secrets are voiced.

When this haven is constructed by hand and with help, its value increases. That Neighbor Kid (Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, May 9, 2017) written and illustrated by Daniel Miyares is about the art of reaching out and receiving. Taking chances can lead to a far greater joy than believed is possible.

My full recommendation: <http://librariansquest.blogspot.com/2017/05/that-neighbor-kid.html>

Jillian Heise says

Fantastic! Love Miyares' books, & this is another stunning wordless gem to share with students. Love the message, love the story, love the illustrations and use of spot color.

Alyson (Kid Lit Frenzy) says

Love Miyares' work. Love this wordless picture book featuring friendship and collaboration at the core of the book.

Niki Marion says

I adore how Miyares uses the tree as both visual barrier and connective tissue that facilitates the burgeoning friendship between two neighbor kids. In one spread, branches reach and beckon to the new neighbor as the tree straddles the gutter.

Miyares also employs verticality and horizontality as visual metaphors for connection. One character literally disassembles a fence to use its tall boards to build a tree house, beginning with horizontal ladder steps nailed up the tree trunk.

After the new neighbor follows a potential friend up the tree, a page turn brings the reader to a beautiful spread that features each child in profile, appearing directly out of the left and right edges of the spread. Miyares frames this illustration so the trunk of the tree is just below the bottom edge and so the negative space in the bottom of the gutter highlights how the tree's thicker branches curve towards each child as its smaller ones connect across the top of the gutter. (Butchering this description but look it up, it's truly lovely visually & metaphorically.)

Then color comes into play in the hitherto greyscale palette, and the two neighbors work together to construct the tree house, while having a bit of fun amidst their productivity.

The final spread is a reverse mirror image of the first full page spread and reiterates the two neighbors' newfound friendship, with the tree cozily crossing the gutter.

Danielle says

A short, beautiful song of a book.

Nick Somsavanh says

That Neighbor Kid (2017) is a wordless picture book written and illustrated by Daniel Miyares that tells the visual story of a young boy moving into a neighborhood and reading a book on Living in Trees in his new backyard. Unbeknownst to the young male, his new neighbor, a young girl around the same age, spies on him from a far and continually progresses closer to him as he begins building his tree house. While he attempts to build the tree house, he finds himself confused by the instructions in the book, only to get bailed out and helped from the neighborhood girl. Together, they start working on the tree house while also building a budding friendship. Not the entire book is wordless as there is a two page spread of the two meeting face to face and greeting each other with "Hi." However, the rest of the book reads like a silent movie shown in widescreen; interestingly enough, most of the color palette of this book is made up of a spectrum of grays. This changes when the two new friends start building the tree house and brighter colors (orange, reds, yellows) are introduced to help show the blossoming of both characters' worlds. The book can be read by an adult to a developing young reader or be read independently by any Pre-K to 2nd grader for fun/leisure and to help with their own visual literacy. Even without words, the book should help young students develop ways to recognize the flow and beats of a story.

Cindy Mitchell *Kiss the Book* says

Miyares, Daniel That Neighbor Kid. PICTURE BOOK. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2017. \$17.99. Content: G.

In this nearly-wordless picture book, a new boy moves into the neighborhood. Through watching him, the girl next-door realizes that he is trying to build a treehouse -- and struggling mightily. Thanks to her kindness and her construction skills, the boy makes a new friend and a solid treehouse.

This is a lovingly-illustrated tale of budding friendship. The wordlessness fits the shy, awkward feelings that come in a new relationship, and the selective colors are a beautiful touch. I also love that the girl is the one with the construction skills, thus defying stereotypes and encouraging STEM projects for both boys and girls. All in all, a nice story that will likely leave readers satisfied and perhaps even inspired.

Pre-K, EL (K-3) -- ADVISABLE. Reviewed by Sydney G., K-6 Library Media Specialist
<https://kissthebook.blogspot.com/2017...>

Monica Lomeli says

Impression: Relate-able and creates a heart warming feeling.m

Impact: Readers can connect to the characters, especially young readers who might not have good comprehension but still enjoy books.

Constructive Opinion: Even though it only had One word, I thought this book was very cute and creates a warm heart feeling of friendship.

Two Design Elements: Light grey, white color scheme start with a senseless feeling, when a cute friendship is built the heart colors up.

A dull start that leads to building a cute friendship that brings color to a character who was afraid to make friends. Created with water color, the literature of the story is told in very clean drawings. Well suited to tale about a lovingly handcraft with the help of the neighbor.

Kiffie says

This is a lovely, mostly wordless picture book about a girl who is curious about the new boy in her neighborhood and his fascination with building a tree house. Miyares's artwork is so gentle, yet full of wonderful details.

Michael Fitzgerald says

Why do we need this book? Trees died for this?

Crappy illustrations tell a trite, hackneyed little story - predictable and dull without any development of significance. There are exactly two words in the book - and both of them are "Hi." I wanted to throw it across the room.

Compare this nonsense to how the amazing wordless trilogy by Aaron Becker (Journey, Quest, Return) does girl-meets-boy.

Jen King says

Annotated Bibliography Entry: That Neighbor Kid by: Daniel Miyares

Summary:

A little girl is curious about the little boy who recently moved into her neighborhood. This boy seems to be fascinated with trees and tree houses and she notices that he begins to build what she recognizes as a tree house. The curious little girl decides she would like to help him build this tree house. The two meet and say hi to each other (which is the only word in the book) and establish a friendship. At the end of the book after getting messy with the paint from painting the tree house, the two sit and relax enjoying each other's company. Boy and girl are now friends!

Personal Response:

There is not much to this story. It is a very simplistic geared more towards younger readers, but I like the story as a whole. I think it would be easy for students to relate to as I am sure most young kids have made friends by helping someone out, etc. It is a simplistic story that children can easily understand as well. Wordless picture books are one of my favorite types of children's books because of the simplistic structure. It gives children a chance to focus on the illustrations to make meaning, which is a good skill for children to develop that will help them as they learn to read.

Descriptions of Illustrations:

The illustrations in this book are interesting because they are mostly black and white. It has very limited color to it and only time it has color is when the children become friends and are painting the tree house. I

think this in and of itself is pretty significant. I think the black and white nature represents the loneliness that not having a friend can cause and also the loneliness associated with being the new kid in town. It only starts to become colored when the two meet and start building a friendship and collaborating with each other. I think that represents that friendship can light the way through loneliness and kind of color your world. I know this sounds a little ridiculous, but there is so much to learn from these illustrations.

Classroom Connections:

I feel that teachers could use this book and share it with students during morning meeting, etc. It is a very simplistic story and I think it would be fun to have students sitting on the carpet, listening and making meaning with the teacher as the teacher shows them the illustrations. Since it is wordless, teachers can have guiding questions that will guide students' to make their own meaning of the illustrations they see. I also think it would be interesting for students to have the chance to come up with some dialogue for the story and hear what they think the characters would be saying to each other. Also, teachers could use this book to introduce the structure of books, such as teaching the students the beginning, middle and end. Since this book is wordless, it would allow students to figure out structure relying solely on the illustrations and their own interpretations. It would give them a chance to think critically about the structure of a story.
