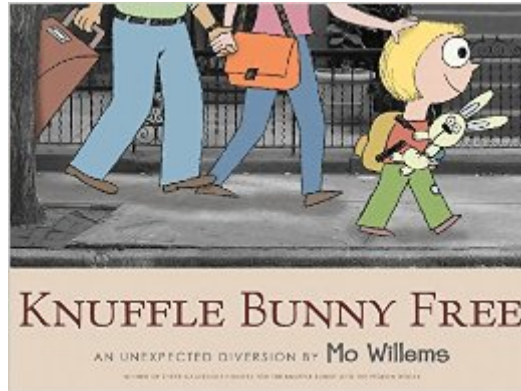


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Knuffle Bunny Free: An Unexpected Diversion (Knuffle Bunny Series)



Synopsis

Trixie and her family are off on a fantastic trip to visit her grandparentsâ all the way in Holland! But does Knuffle Bunny have different travel plans? An emotional tour de force, Knuffle Bunny Free concludes one of the most beloved picture-book series in recent memory, with pitchperfect text and art, photos from around the world, and a stunningfoldout spread, culminating in a hilarious and moving surprise thatno child or parent will be able to resist. Bestselling, award-winning author Mo Willems has created an epiclove story as only he can, filled with the joys and sadness of growing upâ and the unconditional love that binds a father, mother, daughter, and a stuffed bunny.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD530L (What's this?)

Series: Knuffle Bunny Series

Hardcover: 52 pages

Publisher: Balzer + Bray; Complete Numbers Starting with 1, 1st Ed edition (September 28, 2010)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 12.2 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (171 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #5,003 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Europe #18 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Multigenerational

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

I wasn't aware, before picking up my copy of Knuffle Bunny Free today, that author/illustrator Mo Willems had announced that this will be Knuffle Bunny's last adventure with Trixie. While I can't say I'm thrilled with his decision (it's like a favorite TV show getting cancelled!), I have to admit the man sends Knuffle Bunny out in style. In fact, Willems could not have crafted a more perfect - or perfectly wonderful - final chapter. Hands down, Knuffle Bunny Free is my favorite of the three books. Willems has once again taken a situation countless families have experienced - a beloved toy accidentally

left behind (this time on a plane) - and around that situation has built a touching and delightful look at a child growing up. Trixie's happiness as she is able to come to grips with missing Knuffle Bunny by thinking about all the kids he is meeting as he travels without her and about how happy he is making those kids is my very favorite moment in a book full of great moments. I felt all warm and happy and satisfied when I closed the cover (don't you LOVE that feeling?), and I knew Knuffle Bunny Free was going to be a permanent part of my collection. The signature Knuffle Bunny style of incorporating Willems' drawings into photo backgrounds works particularly well in this book as Trixie and Knuffle Bunny travel to exotic locales and enjoy the local sites. A number of Willems' other characters make non-speaking cameo appearances - kids familiar with his work will enjoy spotting them. Without giving any spoilers, my guess is that some people will be unhappy with this final book in the series. My feelings, though, are that the three books create a complete whole and wonderfully - and very successfully - portray various emotional stages of a growing child.

And I'm not entirely convinced this one really happened, either. The ending is a bit contrived - but who knows? I'm putting a spoiler warning on this, and unfortunately most of the review needs it, so be aware if you read on (and care): Trixie and her family are going to Holland (where they say the K in Knuffle!) to visit her grandparents. Naturally, Trixie loses her Knuffle Bunny on the plane. How does she keep doing this? You'd think that by now she'd know better than to leave her bunny everywhere! Well, she was asleep, so I guess the real question is how her parents let it happen this time. At any rate, she loses her bunny, and there's no going back. The plane? Is headed to China. And no, nobody is going to chase off to China to get a stuffed toy. There are limits. Oh, her family hugs her and kisses her and reassures her about what a big girl she's getting to be, and she KNOWS she's getting to be a big girl, but that doesn't make her feel any better. And she has a fun trip, but that doesn't make her feel any better, and her grandparents even try replacing her toy with a fancy bunny, but that really doesn't make her feel any better. Eventually, though, she comes to terms with this with a nice dream about other children playing with her bunny, and that helps. (This is on two fold-out pages. How much you enjoy this probably depends on whether this book is for home use (easy to manage) or classroom/library use (disaster!!!), but either way I suggest you use acid-free tape if you plan to save the book for generations.) However, after she's had her big moment and her growing-up stage, she goes on the plane, which is the EXACT SAME PLANE and sits in the EXACT SAME SEAT and finds - her bunny! OMG! (So...

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