



Friends

Helme Heine

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Charlie Rooster, Johnny Mouse, and Percy the pig are the best of friends. They do *everything* together. They ride their bike together, play games together, and even do their chores together. Because that's what good friends do. When night falls, though, and it's time to go to bed, they learn that sometimes friends have to be apart. But that's okay, because true friends always find each other, even if it's just in their dreams.

Friends Details

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Author : Helme Heine

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Jenny says

In the original German instead of just "resting" after they eat the cherries it says they "mussten" and any German speaking kid knows that means they had to go to the bathroom. So that cute illustration of them "resting" by the cherry tree in the tall grass is not what it seems. It's also what made this book stand out when I found it and made it one of my very favorites. The watered-down English version turns this clever, inventive book into just an average book where most people never really pick it up again. Someone must have like the original or it never would have been published in English. I really wonder what happened there.

Cece says

Three animal friends that do everything together. They can't find a place for all three to sleep and they realize they can't always be together.

Alice says

My sister told me about this book. She said they read it in the preschool she does Speech Pathology. She got to giggling about the three friends riding the bike. The Mouse on one pedal, the pig on the other pedal and the rooster steering.

Cute book cute pictures...I had to watch/read this on Youtube but we are going to be ordering it soon because I think this a fun and important story!

Kerstin says

This wonderful picture book is a family favorite. The water-color illustrations are delightful and full of humor. They invite any kid (at heart) to step into the pages and join the adventure.

BurntOrangeOwl says

The best!

Terry says

I don't care WHO you are....I don't care how OLD you are....if you can't read this and love it....you're too old for me!

Morgan Carlson says

Friends is a story about three good friends, Charlie Rooster, Johnny Mouse, and fat Percy, who live on a farm together. They wake up and go on adventures all day and settle down to eat together. Even though they want to do everything together, they can't figure out a way to sleep together. They all decided that even though they wanted to, they couldn't sleep together, so they all dreamt of each other.

One element of fantasy that is seen in this book is that they are all talking animals. This also means that the characters are fantastic characters in a real world, which is another fantasy element. The character's journey they go on is all the things that happen throughout their day (bike riding, sailing on a boat, picking cherries). The fantasy theme in this book is both friendship and unconditional love. All three of them have an unbreakable bond that is sealed with their love for each other and love for adventures.

The artwork done in the illustrations looks like they have been done using watercolor, giving the illustrations a glowing look. The color palette is full of reds, oranges, and yellows which gives the story a warm, happy feel to their home at the farm. The look of the illustrations puts off an impressionistic vibe which gives the book a dreamlike effect and evokes a quiet mood.

Barbara says

Three unlikely friends, Charlie Rooster, Johnny Mouse, and Percy the pig, enjoy doing just about everything together. Like all good friends, they play together and do chores together. But when they try to spend the night at one another's homes, it just doesn't work out. Johnny's mouse hole is too small to go through, Percy's pigsty is too messy for Johnny Mouse, and they break Charlie Rooster's perch with their weight. They just have to wait until daybreak to spend time together again. I loved the story and the colorful illustrations, especially the cover showing the three friends wheeling along on a bicycle, each pulling his own weight. What a delightful read-aloud as well as an excellent book for stimulating several senses and readers' imagination!

Cheryl says

Well alrighty then. Great theme, but I think it would have been more effective and interesting if they did one thing together, and then did something that showed them as individuals, back and forth throughout, so to speak. In the book they do *everything* except sleep together, and that's just not realistic, imo.

Christine Boyer says

I was going to read this to my class for an essay idea on friendship. Now it's in the garbage. The idea was good: how to navigate the threesome friendship (which we all know is trickier than the twosome). But I couldn't get past one of the 3 main characters - the pig. On the book jacket he's referred to as "Percy the Pig", but all through the book he's "Fat Percy". One scene the friends give him more of the share of food because,

well, because he's fat. Sorry, but I have several overweight students in my class each year and we don't need any characters called "Fat Percy". Awkward and surprising to see nowadays. Two stars for the nice watercolor illustrations.

Solveig says

Gullig bok om vänskap mellan en mus, en gris och en tupp med underbara bilder och fantasifykter.

Diane says

Johnny Mouse, Charlie Rooster and fat Percy are the best of friends. Once Charlie has done his morning wake-up call, the three friends set out on their bicycle for a day's outing. Then, they find a boat and take off on the pond. But at the day's end, they find they must go their separate ways.

Cute illustrations.

Kara Moreland says

This book told about three best friends a pig, a mouse, and a chicken. They ride their bicycle to adventures, find a boat and ride around in it, eat until their bellies are full, rest, ride home, try to have a sleepover but end up going home. They end up dreaming about each other.

I like this book a lot. It has such a strong friendship theme. The adventures they go on are cute and the illustrations are great and really tie the story together.

This would be good in a younger class to read about having real friendships.

Maria says

1. Five to eight year old's.

2. "Friends" is a charming book that recounts the day of a rooster, mouse and pig. They work together to use an old boat and sail to a great cherry tree where they all share the cherries. Then, they bicycle around. When nighttime comes they decide its best to sleep in their own beds, however, true friends always dream of each other. The dynamic between the friends is heartwarming.

3. "Friends" by Helme Heine is a delightful little book that illustrates the true meaning of friendship through detailed illustrations laced with bright colors and movement, as well as a great story line. The moral of the story is that true friends always tick together and care about each other, an idea that is mention quite often.

4. I think this book is great for early school students. It illustrates the rue meaning of friendship and what it means to share. This book can be used for pure enjoyment or to teach important lessons on friendship.

Luis Dovasquez says

El libro tiene unas ilustraciones hermosas ideales para leerlo con niños y admirar la hermosa ambientación del libro, pero la historia carece de mucho sentido, es vacía y pierde la narrativa. Pudo explotarse más la idea.
