

LORGNETTE

Quarterly Review of Children's and Young Adults' Books

Author

Thomas, Jan

Illustrator

Illustrated by the author

Reviewer

Carruth, Leah

Pages

Unpaged

Price

\$15.99

ISBN

978-1-6659-3999-7

Publisher & Date

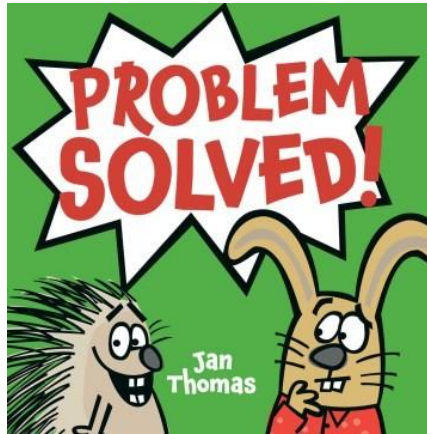
Beach Lane Books, 2023

Classification

Fiction

Grade level

PreK-2



Book Review: PROBLEM SOLVED!

Can you imagine a world where you have your very own problem solver? Rabbit has a messy room and knows it is a problem. Well, here comes Porcupine Pete, the Problem-Solving Porcupine to help our Rabbit. First, Pete folds up the shirts neatly and then tries to feed them to the goldfish! Pete is very excited to be solving so many problems, although Rabbit keeps reminding him where items go in his room. Rabbit helps put his items away so they do not get flushed down the toilet, but he puts them under the rug, among many other incorrect places. They see the headlines in the newspaper stating the mission to Mars has many problems. Rabbit convinces Porcupine Pete that his services are needed on Mars. Problem Solved.

Jan Thomas has done it again. This book is in her unique style of things going seemingly well, only to have a surprise when the page is turned. The digital renderings create fun characters who make their way through single-toned backgrounds of red, green, and light green. The problem that is solved takes up the entire two-page spread with a red background, indicating that maybe something is going on with Porcupine Pete's perception of the problem solving. Rabbit shows relief watching the rocket heading towards Mars outside his window. The reader feels for the astronauts as Porcupine Pete offers his services on Mars, creating problems, instead of helping to solve problems.



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