

LORGNETTE

Quarterly Review of Children's and Young Adults' Books

Author

Le, Minh

Illustrator

Illustrated by Raissa Figueroa

Reviewer

Pye, Erica

Pages

Unpaged

Price

\$18.99

ISBN

978-0-593-37749-9

Publisher & Date

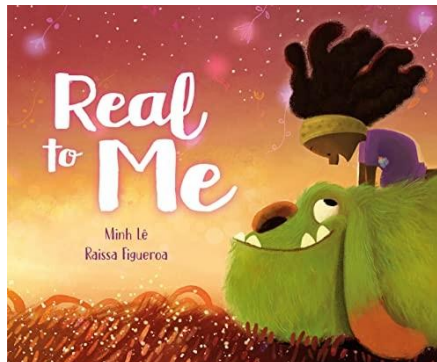
Knopf, 2023

Classification

Fiction

Grade Level

K-3



Book Review: REAL TO ME

REAL TO ME features two characters: a little girl and a fantastical furry green creature with stripes and a long tail. The story is told in first-person, with the narrator describing the friend that everyone else thinks is imaginary. One day, the narrator describes that upon waking, the friend was no longer there, and they missed the friend. But they made new friends with whom they could have fun adventures and share laughter. At the end of the book, the narrator is happy but sometimes still wonders about the “imaginary” friend.

This book has a bit of a twist to it, which is performed wonderfully by the illustrations. Initially, upon seeing the two characters, the girl and the furry creature, one automatically assumes that the little girl is the narrator of the story. But when the “imaginary” friend goes away, the story continues with pictures only of the green furry creature. Slowly, the reader realizes that the little girl was actually the imaginary friend. This is a fun and unexpected surprise, and young readers will enjoy the creativity of this story as well as the magical illustrations that seem to pop right off the pages.

