

# LORGNETTE

Quarterly Review of Children's and Young Adults' Books

## Author

Moore, David Barclay

## Illustrator

Illustrated by Noa Denmon

## Reviewer

Carruth, Leah D

## Pages

Unpaged

## Price

\$17.99

## ISBN

978-1-5362-1370-6

## Publisher & Date

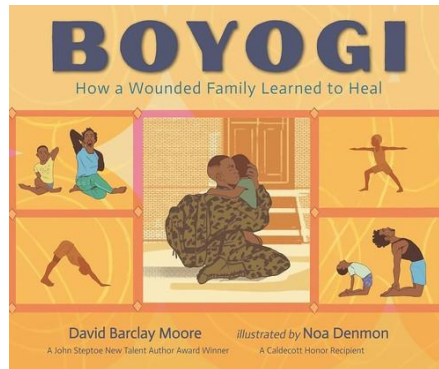
Candlewick, 2023

## Classification

Fiction

## Grade Level

K-5



## Book Review: BOYOGI: HOW A WOUNDED FAMILY LEARNED TO HEAL

The things that happen when a soldier returns home from a tour can tear a family apart. Children may not understand how their loved ones can be different. Butta Bean is worried about his dad, who is not the same playful person he was before being deployed on a combat tour. He has a talk with his mom about how they can help the hurt in his dad's mind. Mom decides to take her husband and son to the YMCA yoga class with her. Dad does not want to attend, but after class he decides to return the next day. The family is enjoying their yoga class together, and Butta Bean and his dad continue to go every day. The yoga helps his dad feel better, and that helps father and son race home once again like they used to.

The illustrations are gentle and wonderfully woven together with this serious subject. Some brighter hues, such as pink, are used a bit, but the color scheme is mainly golds and browns with lighter greens and yellows. This creates a safe and calm atmosphere to mitigate the heaviness of the topic, one that can be difficult for young readers to engage with otherwise. The beginning pages, which show Dad before he goes overseas, are bright, while the page describing his nightmares is dark greens and purples. Emotions are evident throughout the entire book but are illustrated in a way that draws the reader into the story. They do not distract or diminish the story's impact.

