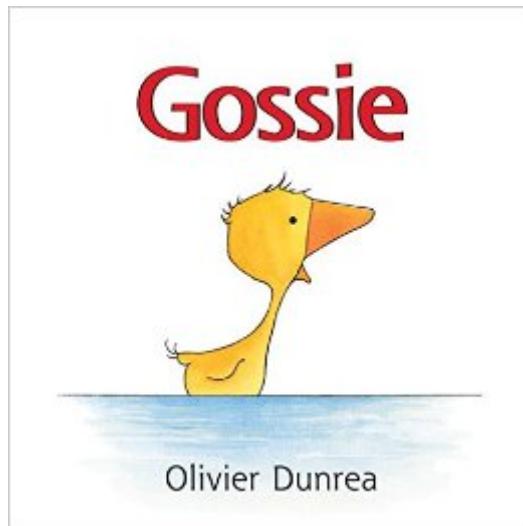


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Gossie (Gossie & Friends)



Synopsis

Meet Gossie, a small yellow gosling who loves to wear bright red bootsâ "every day. One morning Gossie canâ™t find her beloved boots. She looks everywhere for them: under the bed, over the wall, even in the barn. Preschoolers will enjoy helping Gossie find her red boots and delight in where Gossie finally finds them.

Book Information

Series: Gossie & Friends

Board book: 16 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; Brdbk edition (February 12, 2007)

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ISBN-13: 978-0618747917

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.9 x 6 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (100 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #7,243 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #8 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Animals > Ducks & Other Waterfowl #22 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Fiction #277 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Friendship

Customer Reviews

All logical corners of my cranium make it perfectly clear that there is no understandable reason why I liked, "Gossie" as much as I did. The pictures are repetitive with very little detail and a heroine who's mouth is permanently agape. What's to love? But then there's that part of my brain that looks beyond the obvious hairline faults of an otherwise near perfect creation. If Gossie looks the same from page to page, that's because such repetitions are adored by early readers everywhere. If her story is not a rousing shoot-em-up escapade, it makes up for it by being a lovely simple story told with the ideal amount of words and images. And if Gossie is not your typical gosling heroine, it may well be that original appearance that makes her so darned appealing in the first place. "Gossie" may not be the greatest preschooler tome ever penned, but you'd have a hard time conjuring up a list of any that are better. Storywise, there's not much to say. Gossie loves her bright red boots. A chronic mouth breather, she spends her days stomping around and about in the aforementioned attire. One day, however, the boots are nowhere to be found. In a state of panic so intense that she shuts her

beak in misery, Gossie searches high and low. All seems lost until she finds that the boots are walking. "On someone else's feet!". Her fellow gosling, Gertie, compliments her on her choice of footwear and by the end of the tale the two are stomping about, one boot on each gosling's foot. Aside from the fact that the book teaches good heartfelt lessons about sharing and not getting mad when younger friends/siblings purloin one's belongings, the books a heckuva lotta fun to read. Gossie herself is entirely enticing.

As board books go, this is a looong one, yet, "Gossie" holds one's interest even as it introduces a barnyard full of prepositions and situations. Oliver Dunrea's idyllic little watercolor and ink drawings are a beguiling mix of innocence and sheer pluck and energy. Gossie occupies the center of the page, generally waddling across safe, cozy little settings. There's lots of white space, with Gossie invariably pictured in profile. (Funny... although she's a gosling, she looks more like a duck to me.) We quickly learn that Gossie is just gaga over her red boots. She wears them everywhere, and is very nimble in them, walking both backwards and forwards! She's small and simple enough for young toddlers to identify with, and hence adore. The bright primary colors will attract the eyes of even the youngest audience. Gossie's joyful romp is interrupted when she loses her beloved red boots. She looks everywhere for them, and that search introduces all those prepositions and nouns and other good little vocabulary words. Another writer might have placed some false clues, a red little something that is NOT the red boots, but Dunrea keeps the story simple, there are no red herrings here. To her utter delight, Gossie finally finds her boots on the feet of her pal Gertie (featured more prominently in other books). One would expect such thievery among small fry to result in cries, fists, or outrages accusations--maybe even fisticuffs or floods of tears. Instead we have an exquisite example of uncomplicated friendship: Gertie hands over the boots, and compliments Gossie on her sartorial tastes! Gossie, ever the sweetie, returns this generosity by sharing her single pair of boots with Gertie.

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