

Novel Resource #1

Title: How I Became A Pirate

Copyright date: 2003

Author: Melinda Long

Publisher: Harcourt Books

Annotation

This book is a delightful look at the fantasy that many children have of being a pirate. The illustrations will help you feel that you are along for the ride. A young boy named Jeremy Jacob is spotted on a beach making sand castles. A band of pirates admires his expert digging skills, and they take Jeremy to their boat so that Jeremy can help them bury their treasure chest. Jeremy learns how to eat like a pirate, talk like a pirate, and act like a pirate. When a storm rages on the open sea, Jeremy comes to realize that being away from family and familiar routines is not as fun as he imagined.

Booktalk: Have you ever dreamed of becoming a pirate? Young Jeremy Jacob gets to join a band of pirates, but it doesn't turn out the way he had expected. You don't want to miss this funny book written by Melinda Long.

Characters in the story

Jeremy Jacob: main character; about 6 years old; has a great imagination; he's a risk taker.

Mom, dad, and baby sister: pictured in the book, but they don't speak

Braid Beard: Head of the band of pirates;

Band of pirates: follow the lead of Braid Beard in what they say and do; speak in unison.

Conflict: Jeremy wants to live the life of a pirate, but he realizes that he misses his old life at home, with its familiar routines.

Resolution: Jeremy invites the pirates to bury the treasure in his own backyard.

Genre: Fantasy; Picture Book

About the Author



Interesting Facts: Melinda Long is a teacher of literature, as well as a picture book author. She lives with her husband and two children in Greenville, South Carolina.

Melinda wrote this pirate story related to her childhood experiences of burying treasures in her backyard.

Author's webpage address: <http://www.melindalongbooks.com/index2.html>

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Other books she wrote: When Papa Snores, Hiccup, Snickup, & Pirates Don't Change Diapers

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About the Illustrator



Interesting Facts: David Shannon has a degree in fine arts from the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California. He now lives in Los Angeles with his wife Heidi, daughter Emma, and dog Fergus. Many of his ideas come from his daughter.

David always has a new idea for a book that he makes sketches of, while he is working on a book that he is preparing for publication. It can take him up to a year to finish illustrating a book. He has written at least 11 books, and illustrated many more. He is best known for his “David” books.

Author’s webpage address: <http://content.scholastic.com/browse/contributor.jsp?id=3623>

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Books David has Written and Illustrated: No, David!, David Gets in Trouble, David Goes to School, David Smells, Oh, David!, Oops: A Diaper David Book, Good Boy, Fergus, The Amazing Christmas Extravaganza, The Rain Came Down, A Bad Case of Stripes, Duck on a Bike, and How Georgie Radbourn Saved Baseball.

Books David has Illustrated: Encounter, How I Became a Pirate, Pirates Don’t Change Diapers, The Rough-Faced Girl, and The Bunyans.