

Pinduli Janell Cannon 2004 Harcourt Children's Book

Author/Illustrator:  
Janell Cannon



She is a self-taught artist and writer. She has always admired animals, especially creatures that have been misunderstood or neglected.

Janell Cannon's book Pinduli, introduces yet another endearing character in this triumphant story about self-image, self-acceptance, and treating others with respect.

Janell Cannon Receives 2005 OBC Bat Conservation Award

The author of many children's books, including "Stellaluna," was awarded the 2005 Bat Conservation Award by the Organization for Bat Conservation founders, Kim Williams and Rob Mies. The award was presented to Ms. Cannon after her presentation on the first day of Bat Fest 2005 at Cranbrook Institute of Science in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

Janell Cannon worked for many years developing summer reading programs for children as part of the California public library system and now devotes herself full-time to creating books for young readers. Stellaluna won the 1994 American Booksellers Book of the Year Award for children's books. Ms. Cannon lives in Southern California.

Snail Mail:

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Other books include:

Crickwing, Little Yau, Stellaluna, Trupp, and Verdi

Awards for this book:

ASPCA Henry Bergh Children's Book Award Honor Book  
Oppenheim Toy Portfolio Gold Award

**Annotation:**

Punduli was a happy hyena who went out to explore one evening. As she was out walking she came across several animals along the way. Each animal she meets said some not so nice things to her. She tried to change the way she looked with each of the animals comments. She does not understand why they would say such mean things when mother hyena always said that she was perfect in everyway. She finds an interesting way of finding out why they where so mean. This a great story to get you to think about why we say things that hurt others feelings. The illustrations are very interesting. It shows on one side the picture of what is happening in the story and the other side shows drawings of what a hyena would do.

**Book talk:**

Author Janell Cannon loves giving us stories about animals that we may not have much liking for. She has written about snakes, and bugs, and bats. She likes to make these animals not as scary as we tend to think they are. Now she gives us Pinduli who is a little hyena. Pinduli spends the morning exploring and runs into lots of different animals. They all stop and make fun of little Pinduli. Her mother has always told her that she is beautiful. She has to decide if this is something that she believes to be true because they say or is there another reason for these animals to say these mean things. It isn't fun having others talk about you, is it?

**Characters:**

Main- Punduli

Mama Hyena-tells Punduli that she is the most beautiful hyena

Dog-complains of her big ear

Lion-complains that her fur is a prickly fringe

Zebra-complains of unpleasant haziness of her hair patterns

**Conflict:**

The other animals make Punduli feel awful about herself.

**Conflict Resolution:**

Punduli gets the animals to look at why they said those mean things to her and to find out why the other person made them feel so bad.

**Genre:**

Animal and Nature Fiction