



Hooray for Hat!

Brian Won

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Elephant wakes up grumpy—until *ding, dong!* What's in the surprise box at the front door? A hat! HOORAY FOR HAT! Elephant marches off to show Zebra, but Zebra is having a grumpy day, too—until Elephant shares his new hat and cheers up his friend. Off they march to show Turtle! The parade continues as every animal brightens the day of a grumpy friend. An irresistible celebration of friendship, sharing, and fabulous hats.

Hooray for Hat! Details

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Author : Brian Won

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From Reader Review Hooray for Hat! for online ebook

Heather says

With grumpy and happy voices this has been a huge hit for my almost two year old. Perfect for a younger audience who enjoys the simple bliss of making friends happy. Although my six year old who loves deep wordy books finds this just as funny. Maybe it's the way it's read or that her brother enjoys it so much.

Matthew Winner says

Brian Won's debut picture book celebrates the power of small acts of kindness, when received or given out, to transform your mood and perspective on situations.

What starts out as a grumpy day for elephant quickly becomes reason to celebrate when an unexpected package is delivered to his front doorstep. Inside is the box is an assortment of colorful hats, all of which Elephant dons at once, one on top of the other. As Elephant cheers, "HOORAY FOR HAT!", the thought comes to mind that he should visit his friend, Zebra.

The story progresses as such, as the growing band of animals visits grumpy friends and changes each new friend's mood with the gift of a hat and the infectiousness of good company. All throughout, Won's illustrations place the characters at central focus with little to no background illustration apart from what is needed for context (a handrail here, a stump there). One detail that especially caught my eye was the look of anticipation on the faces of each of the hat-wearing friends as they approach the next grumpy friend. The expression is always one of concern and contemplation, leaving space for the reader to offer up how the animals can cure their friend's grumpiness. With a hat, of course!

The text art in each exclamation of "Hooray for hat!" is colorful, offsetting the otherwise black inked type, and appears larger and larger with each new friend encounter. Readers will pick up on this detail for sure, raising their voices louder and louder as they cheer, "HOORAY FOR HAT!".

Brian Won has created a memorable picture book that not only celebrates the importance of contagious happiness, but also reminds us to pay forward those random acts of kindness.

(Full review posted at <http://www.busylibrarian.com/2014/08/...>)

Abby says

Lovely illustrations, not very exciting. Moral of the story - wear a hat, you will find joy. Don't wear a hat, you will be grumpy for all your days unless you are gifting a hat to another grumpy friend.

Donna Mork says

Cute book about a grumpy elephant who cheers up when a box appears and it is full of hats. He goes out and finds his friends. Each one is grumpy but feels better when he shares a hat. In the end they all go and cheer up the giraffe. Hooray for friends.

Cheryl says

Would I like it more if I had friends who would march in a hat parade with me? Maybe. But there are flaws, as a few other reviewers have pointed out. Too simple, too many male characters, and a weird definition of 'grumpy.'

Becky says

First sentence: When Elephant woke up he was very grumpy. The doorbell rang. Elephant stomped down the stairs. "Go away! I'm Grumpy!"

Premise/plot: Elephant was very, very grumpy until the unwrapping of a present. The gift? A hat. But not just any hat! A super-super-crazy hat that goes a long, long way in lifting one's grumps! This Elephant learns throughout the book. Elephant first visits Zebra--who is GRUMPY--and then Turtle--who is GRUMPY--and then Owl--who is GRUMPY--and then Lion--who is GRUMPY--and then Giraffe....

My thoughts: I LOVED, LOVED, LOVED, LOVED this one. I loved all the crankiness. I loved how the giving--or sharing--of a hat, and, perhaps most importantly the support of friends who understand and relate--can make such a big difference. It was cute and funny. (Not all cute books are funny. Not all funny books are cute.)

Text: 5 out of 5

Illustrations: 4 out of 5

Total: 9 out of 10

Susan says

Meh. It's a silly story.

I do not understand why all of the animals were so grumpy, except for lion. Lion said he was grumpy because he was thinking about giraffe, who was not doing well. Even then, however, would lion not be worried, or anxious or concerned, rather than grumpy? Serious? What was with all of the grumpiness?

I also did not understand why five of the six characters were male (giraffe's gender is not disclosed, but by that time in the book you sort of assume giraffe too is male). Omission of female characters in stories supports the idea that girls are not/cannot be active in the world.

Jannah says

Elephant is GRUMPY. But when a mysterious box of hats arrives on the porch, a happy chain reaction occurs! Will hats help *all* of Elephant's other crabby friends?

This was a fun one to read out loud for a hat-themed storytime! Everyone chimed in for the "Go away, I'm grumpy" and "HOORAY FOR HAT!" lines. The illustrations are cute and I liked how the image layout switched things up a couple times for some of the most pivotal moments.

Dylan Teut says

A fantastic book that teaches readers it is good to receive, but it is even better to give.

Shoshana G says

Nice repetition. Bright and boldly differentiated illustrations.

I read this at story time and the pictures grabbed attention, and I read this at a day care and they enjoyed yelling "hooray for hat" at appropriate moments.

Michele Knott says

Hooray for Hat! When you're grumpy, hats make you feel better! At least it did for these friends :) I loved the grumpy animal faces and how happy the hats made them. I also liked how the hats seemed to fit the personalities of each animal. I'm thinking I would have the hat with the cup and straw on it... filled with a strawberry margarita :)

Meg says

What a fun way to encourage little ones to look for the positive things in each day.

Gina says

This was such a cute book! When you're having a grumpy day, a hat can cheer you right up. My four-year old daughter loved it.

Edward Sullivan says

Nothing like a new hat to cheer you when you're down. A cheerful celebration of sharing and friendship.

Arree Chung says

Elegant and delightful. A strong graphic style and quirky charming characters deliver a simple message about life- that friends make life better. The message is told in a light way without being heavy handed or preachy. Won's illustrations are deceptively simple, modern and bold.
