



## Mathilda and the Orange Balloon

*Randall de Sève , Jen Corace (Illustrator)*

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**Mathilda and the Orange Balloon** Randall de Sève , Jen Corace (Illustrator)  
How can a small sheep become a big orange balloon?

With a lot of imagination and determination—anything is possible!

## **Mathilda and the Orange Balloon Details**

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Author : Randall de Sève , Jen Corace (Illustrator)

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## **From Reader Review Mathilda and the Orange Balloon for online ebook**

### **Sue Pak says**

This is a fun, cute book about Mathilda the sheep wanting to be an orange balloon in a world where everything is gray and small. When the other sheep denies her, she asks them for the traits of a balloon. They list out traits about the orange balloon, and Mathilda proves that she can do those too.

I think this book sends the message that anything is possible, and the sky is really the limit when it comes to something you want to do or be.

This is a great book to branch off to other colors.

Appropriate for kindergarten (as a read aloud) up to second grade.

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### **Sarah Stumphf says**

This one required a lot of explanation to my 7 year old.

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### **Amanda says**

Loved the artwork! Loved the text! Sweet and silly!

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### **Paula says**

Seriously? Randall De Seve, one of my favorite talented illustrators, has somebody ELSE illustrating this book? Well but Jen Corace, with her wide-eyed characters and clear lines, her excellent use of white space, is a perfect illustrator for a story about a sheep. Lovely colors, too, both the muddy colors and the bright colors. Although once Matilda turns into an orange balloon she kind of looks like a big ball of cheddar cheese, but I don't think that could have been avoided.

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### **Trisha Daniel says**

Mathilda had such imagination. Every time someone would say something logical she would just go right back around and give them an imagined example. Mathilda knew she could be anything she wanted to be even if it was not possible. She used her imagination and with it she was able to experience many happy things. I loved this little sheep and so will you!

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## **Susan says**

Cute story showing that you can be anything you want to be.

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## **Romelle says**

Story about imagination. It started off great with Mathilda declaring, "orange balloon...that's me!" The other sheep don't believe, but Mathilda asks them to describe the balloon and she acts it out, believing that she is an orange balloon. The realization in the end that anything is possible didn't feel much of a "realization" because of the active imagination that has already been demonstrated throughout the story by Mathilda. Nevertheless, it is a good book that opens up a child's imagination and helps them see the world around them differently.

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## **Tasha says**

Mathilda's world is small, only a few things in it: gray skies, green grass, green barn, gray stones, and gray sheep. It was all ok, until she saw the bright orange balloon float past. Then all she wanted to be was an orange balloon herself. First, she made herself as round as the balloon. The hardest part is turning herself orange. The other sheep offer up ideas of things that are orange: fierce tigers, the sun, autumn leaves. Mathilda imagined herself orange and round as hard as she could and suddenly, there she was, a Mathilda-shaped orange balloon. That was when the lives of all of the sheep changed.

A wonderful book about the power of dreams and imagination, this book is simple and delightful. De Seve's writing is straight-forward and plain, offering a wonderful contrast between it and the subject matter. Corace's illustrations use white space to great advantage, emphasizing the simplicity of Mathilda's world until imagination enters it. Her sheep have great personality, with winning facial expressions.

Bravo for such a creative little book that takes imagination into reality with no hesitation. This will make any sheep story time less gray and more colorful! Appropriate for ages 3-5.

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## **Loren says**

If you like the books Little Pea, Little Hoot, this one is sure to please (same illustrator and same feel). Why I like this book: go sheep! I love the spunky nature of this sheep and her determination to be something other than well a sheep. Yeah, I like sheep but this one is beyond cute she is imaginative and helps others (sheep) think out side the box. The illustrations are a perfect match to the text. Not good for storytime but every child should read this book before heading to kindergarten. Themes: self realization, colors, balloons, creativity and yeah, balloons.

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## **Toddler Book Reviews says**

Mathilda and the Orange Balloon was a surprise little pick up from the library. Written by Randall de Sève and illustrated by Jen Corace, this tale teaches children that no matter what your surroundings or situation, no matter if other people say you can't do or be something, if you have an imagination and you believe in yourself, you can be ANYTHING you want to be... even an orange balloon. I found this SO heartwarming and such a great message for the kids of today.

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## **Baby Bookworm says**

*This review was originally written for The Baby Bookworm. Visit us for new picture books reviews daily!*

Hello, everybody! Our book today is *Mathilda And The Orange Balloon*, written by Randall de Sève and illustrated by Jen Corace. It tells the tale of a little sheep with big dreams, who finds that the power of imagination puts the impossible within reach.

Mathilda the sheep lives a very simple life in a very simple place: from her pasture, she can see green grass and a green barn, gray rocks and gray skies, and lots and lots of gray sheep. These sights are all she knows until one day, when a bright orange balloon floats by. Mathilda loves it, and declares that she is an orange balloon too, much to the disdain of the other sheep. They point out that she is nothing like the orange balloon, but Mathilda only smiles and asks them to describe it. Well, it's round; no problem, Mathilda puffs out her wool until she is round. It can fly, they say, so Mathilda leaps into the air until she feels like she is flying. It's orange, protest the sheep. What is orange?, Mathilda counters. Fierce like a tiger, warm like the sun, happy like falling leaves? Mathilda is all these things, too. And so Mathilda and the rest of the sheep realize that if you can imagine yourself as one thing, you can imagine yourself as anything, and the possibilities of your world are endless.

This was a sweet little story with a clever twist on imagination, especially it's practicality. Mathilda's wonderings are joyful, not only to her but to the sheep around her as well, who join in her musings on the nature of the orange balloon. It's a nice message about how creativity can transform not just one person, but a community as a whole. The anime-inspired illustrations are just adorable, bringing Mathilda's fantasies to quirky yet beautiful light. The length is perfect, and JJ really enjoyed it. This one was a delight, and it's Baby Bookworm approved!

Be sure to check out The Baby Bookworm for more reviews!

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## **Jennifer says**

Cute. Life-coach optimism.

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### **Melissa says**

What I like: how Matilda the Gray Sheep decides she is an Orange Balloon, and leads the other sheep from making more-obvious comparisons (Matilda is round like a balloon) to less-obvious ones ("orange is the sun, warm as wool.")

What I don't like: "Then the sheep realized--anything was possible." Yeah, yeah, yadda, yadda.

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### **Sandy Brehl says**

Simple, direct story with visual humor and imaginative concepts. Borders on poetry in places with its "orange is..." repetitive pattern.

Could serve as mentor text for young writers.

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### **Jen Turrell says**

My kids and I have read this book at bedtime about a thousand times and we all love it! The illustrations are gorgeous, and the message is inspiring.

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