



Julius

By Angela Johnson

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When Maya's grandfather comes for a visit, he brings a surprise in a crate--something, he says, to teach her fun and sharing. Maya hopes it's a horse or a big brother. But instead it's Julius, a big, cool pig. Maya's parents see Julius as a slob, but Maya herself sees another Julius altogether. She sees a playmate, a protector, and sharer in all that's magical and wild. Full color.

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Julius By Angela Johnson Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

In this exuberant celebration of love and sharing, Maya is given an Alaskan pig and learns that friendship is a two-way street. Johnson's humorous, upbeat text rings with its own rhythm as it introduces Julius, a pig with a fondness for old movies, trying on clothes ("anything blue and stretchy") and eating peanut butter "from the jar, without getting any on the ceiling." As Maya shares Julius's version of fun and games, so the clever porker learns from Maya "that even though he was a pig he didn't have to act like he lived in a barn." Pilkey's (*When Cats Dream*) illustrations are a felicitous departure for this gifted artist. Painted in blocks of fluorescent color, his paintings zing with the joy of living and perfectly capture the book's infectious carnival spirit. A small but enchanting detail is his assortment of patchwork squares, decorated with patterns and posies, which appears as wallpaper and frames several scenes. Jubilant and subtly instructive. Ages 3-6. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Kirkus Reviews

The author of *When I Am Old With You* (1990) and other celebrations of loving companionship teams up with the mad colorist of *When Cats Dream* (1992) for a tale of a black family that finds itself saddled with a huge, exuberant pet. Maya has always wanted a horse or an older brother, but her traveling Grandaddy brings her an Alaskan pig instead ("Something that will teach you fun and sharing"). Like a teenager from hell, Julius romps through the house munching on junk food, dropping crumbs, listening to loud music, and staying up till the wee hours. He and Maya are inseparable; and as he teaches her how to dance to jazz records and eat peanut butter right from the jar, she firmly teaches him table manners and cleaner habits. Using ink, paint, fabric swatches, and even coffee spatters, Pilkey creates a riotous sequence in which Maya's happy face contrasts comically with her parents' glowers while her adored pink friend floats with bulbous grace. (Picture book. 4-7) -- Copyright ©1993, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.

About the Author

Angela Johnson was born in Tuskegee, Alabama, but raised in Windham, Ohio; the only girl in a family of five. She now lives in Northeastern Ohio in a hundred year old house full of plants. When not writing she travels. On one of her trips to the California desert the inspiration for her first novel, *Toning the Sweep* came about.

Dav Pilkey has written and illustrated numerous popular, award-winning books for children, including the Captain Underpants and Dumb Bunnies series; *DOG BREATH*, winner of the California Young Reader Medal; and *THE PAPERBOY*, a Caldecott Honor Book. He lives with his wife in the Pacific Northwest. Visit him online at www.pilkey.com.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Barbara Spangler:

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Paula Lauria:

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to complete! A lot of people spent their leisure time with their family, or all their friends. Usually they performing activity like watching television, about to beach, or picnic inside park. They actually doing same task every week. Do you feel it? Would you like to something different to fill your current free time/ holiday? May be reading a book may be option to fill your cost-free time/ holiday. The first thing you will ask may be what kinds of reserve that you should read. If you want to test look for book, may be the book untitled Julius can be good book to read. May be it could be best activity to you.

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