



Black and White

By David Macaulay

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Four stories are told simultaneously, with each double-page spread divided into quadrants. The stories do not necessarily take place at the same moment in time, but are they really one story?

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Black and White By David Macaulay Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #124875 in Books
- Brand: Sandpiper
- Published on: 2005-10-24
- Released on: 2005-10-24
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 12.00" h x .11" w x 7.81" l, .36 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 32 pages



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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Black and White is an interesting title for a book that aims to prove there's no such thing as black and white. But read on and you will see that irony and playful deception are running themes in this multidimensional, nonlinear picture story, which was awarded the 1991 Caldecott Medal. In it, a normal-looking cow contains a robber literally pointing at one of the plot's various possible outcomes, which remain tentative as long as they are formulated by young readers. Seeing new angles and clues every time they open the book, these readers will probably astound adult onlookers with their excitement and ease at navigating the unknown in a literary medium akin to interactive multimedia.

From Publishers Weekly

At first glance, this is a collection of four unrelated stories, each occupying a quarter of every two-page spread, and each a slight enough tale to seem barely worth a book--a boy on a train, parents in a funny mood, a convict's escape and a late commuter train. The magic of Black and White comes not from each story, however, but from the mysterious interactions between them that creates a fifth story. Several motifs linking the tales are immediately apparent, such as trains--real and toy--and newspapers. A second or third reading reveals suggestions of the title theme: Holstein cows, prison uniform stripes. Eventually, the stories begin to merge into a surrealistic tale spanning several levels of reality, e.g.: Are characters in one story traveling on the toy train in another? Answers are never provided--this is not a mystery or puzzle book. Instead, Black and White challenges the reader to use text and pictures in unexpected ways. Although the novelty will wear off quickly for adults, no other writer for adults or children explores this unusual territory the way Macaulay does. All ages.

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Review

"This work engages another side of the mind. It's a story; it's a puzzle; it's a game . . . Macaulay refuses to be confined by the conventions of the picture book."

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Dora Gourley:

The book Black and White can give more knowledge and information about everything you want. Why then must we leave the good thing like a book Black and White? A number of you have a different opinion about book. But one aim in which book can give many details for us. It is absolutely suitable. Right now, try to closer with the book. Knowledge or details that you take for that, you may give for each other; you can share all of these. Book Black and White has simple shape however you know: it has great and big function for you. You can appear the enormous world by open up and read a reserve. So it is very wonderful.

Kevin Hamby:

The book untitled Black and White contain a lot of information on the item. The writer explains your girlfriend idea with easy means. The language is very clear to see all the people, so do certainly not worry,

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Patti Wooden:

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