



The Quickest Kid in Clarksville

By Pat Zietlow Miller



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It's the day before the big parade. Alta can only think about one thing: Wilma Rudolph, three-time Olympic gold medalist. She'll be riding on a float tomorrow. See, Alta is the quickest kid in Clarksville, Tennessee, just like Wilma once was. It doesn't matter that Alta's shoes have holes because Wilma came from hard times, too. But what happens when a new girl with shiny new shoes comes along and challenges Alta to a race? Will she still be the quickest kid? *The Quickest Kid in Clarksville* is a timeless story of dreams, determination, and the power of friendship. Plus, this is the fixed-format version, which looks almost identical to the print edition!

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

K-Gr 2-A story about teamwork and perseverance, this homage to the great Wilma Rudolph takes place in 1960 at about the time of the homecoming parade for the Olympian, which occurred in Clarksville, TN-the first integrated event in that town. Young Alta idolizes the great runner and practices her own gait using a rhythmic chant: "Wil-ma Ru-dolph." When she meets a girl with a competitive spirit and brand-new sneakers, Alta has to remind herself that Wilma Rudolph overcame obstacles greater than worn-out shoes. On the day of the parade, a banner that Alta is making is too bulky for one person to carry the whole way, and the new girl, Charmaine, offers a solution-the girls and their friends run an Olympic-style relay to get the banner to the parade site on time. Morrison's full-bleed watercolor illustrations give an effective sense of time and place and render the characters movement well. An author's note provides brief biographical material emphasizing Rudolph's athletic achievements and her role in integrating her hometown. VERDICT A solid addition for large collections.-Lisa Lehmmuller, Paul Cuffee Maritime Charter School, Providence, RI(c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

Review

"A spunky tribute to friendship and determination."--Champagne-Urbana News Gazette

Cool Mom Picks' 10 Most Empowering Books for Girls

Charlotte Observer Best Books of the Year

"There's a lot of sass and attitude inside this book, and charm all over."--Las Vegas Review Journal

"Sweet and inspiring."--Kirkus Reviews

"Ratty old sneakers and a little competition won't keep Alta from running toward her Olympic dream."--FamilyFun Magazine

"Partly a book about kids learning to make friends, and partly a history lesson about Wilma Rudolph."--Design Mom

"Gentle tribute to the legend of the pathbreaking African-American sprinter Wilma Rudolph."--The New York Times

"An engaging, lively story."--The Horn Book Magazine

"All children will relate to the powerful lessons about jealousy, determination, confidence, dreams, and friendship."--Booking Mana

"A story with spunk to spare."--Seven Impossible Things Before Breakfast

"A story about teamwork and determination."--Publishers Weekly

About the Author

Pat Zietlow Miller began her writing career in college as a sports reporter and has had a fascination with Wilma Rudolph ever since. Pat is the author of several picture books and lives in Madison, Wisconsin.

Frank Morrison is the Coretta Scott King Honor Award–winning illustrator of many books for young people. He lives Atlanta, Georgia.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Richard Hood:

What do you think of book? It is just for students because they're still students or this for all people in the world, what the best subject for that? Only you can be answered for that problem above. Every person has different personality and hobby per other. Don't to be pushed someone or something that they don't need do that. You must know how great as well as important the book The Quickest Kid in Clarksville. All type of book would you see on many resources. You can look for the internet solutions or other social media.

Roger Sowa:

The Quickest Kid in Clarksville can be one of your beginner books that are good idea. We all recommend that straight away because this publication has good vocabulary that will increase your knowledge in language, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The writer giving his/her effort to place every word into joy arrangement in writing The Quickest Kid in Clarksville however doesn't forget the main point, giving the reader the hottest in addition to based confirm resource info that maybe you can be one of it. This great information can drawn you into new stage of crucial thinking.

Pamela Eckert:

In this particular era which is the greater man or woman or who has ability to do something more are more precious than other. Do you want to become one among it? It is just simple strategy to have that. What you should do is just spending your time little but quite enough to get a look at some books. On the list of books in the top record in your reading list is usually The Quickest Kid in Clarksville. This book which can be qualified as The Hungry Hillside can get you closer in turning out to be precious person. By looking up and review this book you can get many advantages.

Yolanda Sartain:

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