

# **The Apple Doll**





## Synopsis

Lizzy loves the big apple tree in her yard more than anything. So when the first day of school comes, she picks a beautiful apple, turns it into a makeshift doll she names Susanna, and takes it along to keep her company. But her teacher tells her that dolls aren't allowed at school. Even worse, her sister says that Susanna won't last forever. Then Lizzy's mom shows her a way to turn Susanna into a real apple doll. And with the help of Susanna the Apple Doll, Lizzy overcomes her shyness at school and makes plenty of new friends to bring home to play in her beloved apple tree. Detailed, delightful collage illustrations accompany this sweet story about one girl's success in bringing together her home world and her school world. Instructions for making an apple doll just like Susanna are included!

#### **Book Information**

Hardcover: 40 pages Publisher: Farrar, Straus and Giroux (BYR); First Edition edition (July 24, 2007) Language: English ISBN-10: 0374303800 ISBN-13: 978-0374303808 Product Dimensions: 8.4 x 0.4 x 10.3 inches Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (12 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #352,926 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #128 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > First Day of School #857 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > New Experiences #2150 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Girls & Women Age Range: 4 - 8 years Grade Level: Preschool and up

### **Customer Reviews**

Kleven, Elisa, The Apple Doll, Farrar Straus Giroux, 2007Lizzie loves her apple tree where she often lies on a branch contently alone except for some birds and squirrels. She watches the tree change through the seasons, pretending that her tree is "a skeleton rattling in the autumn" a gingerbread cake with snowy frosting during winter, "a blossomy springtime cloud" and "a leafy summer circus"; charming vignettes show her eating snow in winter, and swinging upside down on a

branch of the tree in summer. Soon however, it is her first day of school and Lizzie worries about whether she will make friends, Her sister tells her that she pretends too much and that school will be good for her because she can "make some real friends". Before starting off for school, Lizzie climbs up in her tree and picks her favorite apple, "round as a ball, warm as the sunlight-too happy to pack in her lunch box" and whispers to her apple that she has named Susanna that she is scared about going to school. She gives her apple a twig body and carries her apple doll to school but her teacher tells her to put her apple away until lunchtime and then her classmates tease her: one says, "Why don't you play with a real doll?" When Lizzie arrives home that first day, she gives Susanna yarn hair, dresses her in fabric and lace, gives her toys to play with and tells her that she does not have to go to school anymore. Lizzie who must return to school sits by herself in the playground and feels very lonely. A little girl stares at her as she eats her lunch all by herself. When the apple doll begins to deteriorate, Lizzie dries her; now Lizzie's doll has a wrinkled face atop a pipe cleaner body, and is dressed in fabric and lace.

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