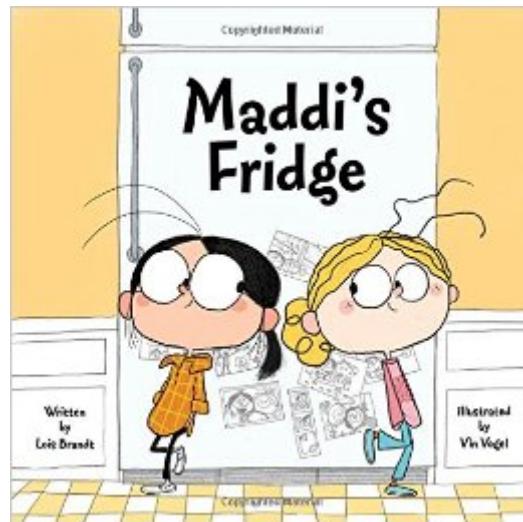


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# Maddi's Fridge



## Synopsis

Winner of: 2014 Christopher Award, Books for Young People 2014 ILA Primary Fiction Award 2015 MLA Mitten Award Honor With humor and warmth, this children's picture book raises awareness about poverty and hunger. Best friends Sofia and Maddi live in the same neighborhood, go to the same school, and play in the same park, but while Sofia's fridge at home is full of nutritious food, the fridge at Maddi's house is empty. Sofia learns that Maddi's family doesn't have enough money to fill their fridge and promises Maddi she'll keep this discovery a secret. But because Sofia wants to help her friend, she's faced with a difficult decision: to keep her promise or tell her parents about Maddi's empty fridge. Filled with colorful artwork, this storybook addresses issues of poverty with honesty and sensitivity while instilling important lessons in friendship, empathy, trust, and helping others. A call to action section, with six effective ways for children to help fight hunger and information on antihunger groups, is also included.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Flashlight Press (September 1, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1936261294

ISBN-13: 978-1936261291

Product Dimensions: 10.2 x 0.5 x 10.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (34 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #82,609 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #36 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Homelessness & Poverty #1873 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Friendship

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

Lois Brandt has done an excellent job of making that message relatable for even very small children. The book includes tips for kids on how to be aware and how to help- with their family's support, of course. "The more we talk about empty refrigerators, the fewer there will be." That's the truth, right there. In a world where we treat everything as a race to the finish with a prize for the winner, even the winner has to live in a world where children go hungry. That's not much of a

prize. Vin Vogel's illustrations are enticing, detailed, and colorful. They give a sense of emotion and of movement that create a feeling of connection to the characters for readers and pre-readers alike, and the cityscape that forms the backdrop for the story is architecturally interesting, while also depicting a vibrant, walkable community. I feel like I recognize Maddi and Sofia's friendly, welcoming neighborhood, and want to call it my own. (Also? Gotta say I love, love, LOVE that there is an independent bookstore that appears multiple times throughout the book!) It's hard for me to separate the way the story is written from the message, because I started with such a powerful emotional connection to the topic. But the words are well chosen and well composed- the story shows us the bond between the people in the book, without distracting us by pointing it out. The narrative injects humor and carries the theme of community and overcoming obstacles throughout the story in a way that is both elegant and subtle. Much like in the illustrations, we see a world we recognize, and one we love. The types of foods discussed in the book are used to evoke cultural heritage and also to talk about nutrition and the quality of our food.

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