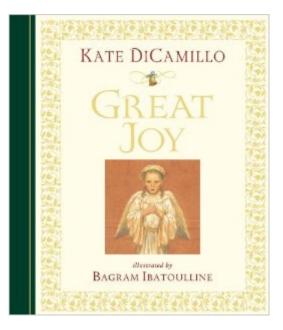
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Great Joy (midi Edition)





Synopsis

â œNewbery Medalist DiCamillo spins a tale of compassion and holiday warmth.â •â "Publishers Weekly (starred review)It is just before Christmas when an organ grinder and monkey appear on the street outside Francesâ ™s apartment. When itâ ™s quiet she can hear their music, and when she looks out her window at midnight, she sees them sleeping outside. Finally the day of the Christmas pageant arrives, but when itâ ™s Francesâ ™s turn to speak, all she can think about is the organ grinderâ ™s sad eyes â " until a door opens just in time, and she finds the perfect words to share. With this luminous tale, Kate DiCamillo pairs with Bagram Ibatoulline to offer a timeless holiday gift.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 680L (What's this?) Hardcover: 32 pages Publisher: Candlewick; 1st Print This Edition edition (September 14, 2010) Language: English ISBN-10: 0763649961 ISBN-13: 978-0763649968 Product Dimensions: 7.6 x 0.4 x 8.8 inches Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (46 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #198,001 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #75 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Homelessness & Poverty #550 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Values #638 in Books > Children's Books > Holidays & Celebrations > Christmas Age Range: 4 - 8 years Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

This story and its accompanying pictures take place back in time, around the 1950s, when street corners would be spotted with self-employed opportunists who would entertain or sell you some gadget or gizmo. In this story, there is an organ grinder, with a small costumed monkey, playing music for people on the street. Crowds would pass by and enjoy the sounds of the organ grinder and the antics (that's behavior) of the monkey. From an apartment window above the street level, a little girl named Frances would watch the man and his monkey, both during the day and the night. Frances became concerned about the man and his monkey and what happens to them at night.

Now Frances' mother was sewing her a robe for the church pageant; she was going to be an angel. That night, Frances made herself stay awake because she wanted to see if the old man and his monkey were still out on the street corner so late at night. Yes, she saw them, and called to them; the old man waved his hat to her. Well, the next morning, Frances told her Mother that they sleep on the street, even in the snow. She even wanted to invite them for dinner, but her Mother said they couldn't because they were strangers. Frances and her Mother, dressed in their winter coats and boots, walked in the snow. Frances saw that the man and the monkey were still on the street corner; she placed a coin in the monkey's cup, and invited the man to the Christmas play, that night. She explained that she was in the Christmas play at the church. She even asked him if he wanted to hear her one line in the play. Before he could say anything, Frances' Mother hurried her on so they wouldn't be late. Frances could see the sad eyes on the man's face. He just smiled at her.

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