



It's a Big World, Little Pig!

Kristi Yamaguchi, Tim Bowers (Illustrator)

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Poppy, the adorable, persistent, dreaming-big pig, has a new adventure in store for her: the World Games ice-skating championship in Paris! Poppy is nervous about meeting so many new people in a new place. But, ever courageous and supported by her family (Emma, too!), Poppy embarks upon this exciting adventure head-on. She meets a snowboarding Panda, a Maltese who skies, and two fellow skaters, a Crane and a Kangaroo. Poppy begins to realize that although these animals look different, act different, and are from different places, they are all the same at heart. They all smile in the same language!

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It's a Big World, Little Pig! Details

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From Reader Review It's a Big World, Little Pig! for online ebook

JenniferJ says

Awww I just jumped at the chance to read this one not only because of the beautiful illustrations but because I am a sucker for Little Piggies! I know! I know! I am strange but I been collecting figurines and items with little piggies for ages.

With my confession made this story was really adorable with Little Pig venturing off to a new country to compete in the ice skating competitions. She was very excited and scared all at once but she had big dreams and didn't let her fear hold her back.

The underlying meaning I got from the story was to follow your dreams and don't let fear hold you back!

Megumi Shavers says

This book is a picture book for the children group of N. This book did not win any awards but it is written by Olympic figure skater gold medalist Kristi Yamaguchi. This story is about a little pig who is a ice figure skater and gets invited to Paris to compete in the World Games. She is nervous and scared at first, but her family and friends encourages her to go. When she gets there she meets from different parts of the world. The theme to this story is that meeting new friends is exciting and that everyone gets nervous when they go to a new place. But knowing that everyone goes through the same thing is reassuring. I thought it was funny that the main character was a pig, when you think of a pig, you think lazy and fat. However, this pig was far from lazy! So it breaks the perception that all pigs are lazy. This book is especially good for children who are new to the classroom or even new to America. A quote that I really like in this book was "It's a big world, little pig, but remember that everyone smiles in the same language!" A smile can definitely leave give them a sense of peace, knowing that someone cares about them.

Anna Baize says

This book by Kristi Yamaguchi tells the story of a successful ice skating pig as she travels to compete in the world games. She is very nervous, and unsure about how she will be able to interact with the athletes from all over the world. But, she very easily is able to make many new friends, they bond over similarities in their lives and each interaction is ended with a smile, because everyone smiles in the same language.

This story is very lacking in excitement. The story is very bland as it is very much just a story of what happened to the author, Kirsti Yamaguchi, when she was in the olympics only replacing the people in her life with animals. The interactions with each new animal ave very surface level and are all very repetitive. The story is not one that draws the reader in in any way, it is very predictable and unusually boring for a children's book.

The mood of this story is very monotonous, cheery and optimistic throughout. The book lacks a conflict, it simply follows along as Poppy the pig lives her dream, being a successful ice skater. There is a large plot hole as she goes from hoping to be a successful ice skater and then suddenly is. This story, of pursuing her

dreams would have probably been a much more interesting and exciting book, with a moral about never giving up. This story lacks a solid moral or take away because of its lack of conflict.

KP says

Synopsis from Amazon.com:

Poppy, the adorable, persistent, dreaming-big pig, has a new adventure in store for her: the World Games ice-skating championship in Paris! Poppy is nervous about meeting so many new people in a new place. But, ever courageous and supported by her family (Emma, too!), Poppy embarks upon this exciting adventure head-on. She meets a snowboarding Panda, a Maltese who skies, and two fellow skaters, a Crane and a Kangaroo. Poppy begins to realize that although these animals look different, act different, and are from different places, they are all the same at heart. They all smile in the same language!

I had high hopes for Kristi Yamaguchi's *It's a Big World, Little Pig!* The cover looked cute, and it's published by a wonderful publisher, Sourcebooks Jabberwocky. It's also the second book featuring the main character, Poppy, a little pig with big hopes and dreams. Tim Bowers illustrated this picture book, and that is where I can give the most praise. His pictures are soft and vibrant at the same time. I love that the animals he chose to draw really are the animals you would find in each country. The story line has a lot of potential, and if you have a budding ice skater, he or she will probably love it. One of the things I had a problem with was just how wordy the book was on each page. Now, I've read a lot of picture books. I'm a mom as well as a book blogger after all. Wordy picture books don't scare me or usually turn me off. That is...IF the words really seem to steer the story along. There were some pages of this book that I felt like I was plugging along to get to the next part. Then, the next spread would speed me up just to turn the page and find myself plugging along in the story again. It was a bit inconsistent. While I know there are children who will appreciate and like this book, especially the illustrations, there were a few things that I struggled with. It is due to release on March 6, 2012. I give this book 3 out of 5 books.

Jennifer says

I loved Kristi Yamaguchi as an Olympian and had previously read the first Pig book with my niece. So I was curious to see what was in store for Poppy the pig.

I think that children's stories should be interesting for both the kid and the adult reading it. I thought *It's a Big World, Little Pig* had a good message. It was interesting to me to see all these animal athletes at the World Games in Paris.

It's definitely interesting for the adult reading knowing that Kristi was an Olympic athlete. So it's cute to see Poppy as a pig skater (knowing Kristi was a skater).

It was a cute story and enjoyable. It was nice to get to see her get to visit Paris after the competition.

Although throughout the book it seemed like she was alone. And then all of a sudden her parents showed up to visit Paris with her. But overall cute book.

Here are my 6 year old niece's thoughts:

It was good. I liked the book. I liked how she didn't get nervous and made friends. I liked that she got to see her parents. And they got to go all over Paris - and see the Eiffel Tower (that was very cool). 5/5 stars.

I received this ebook from netgalley from Sourcebooks Jabberwocky. Thanks.

Melissa says

Fantastic for going new places... and pretty great for this first week of school too!

Sheri says

Cute book but the story arc was not like other picture books. Kristi does know all about skating and competitions, I believe.

Danica Midlil says

The best part of this book are the illustrations, but they don't save the story from being saccharine. "You Go, Girl!" Ugh. Gag! Too trite for me.

I really dislike that the book shows figure skating as all about her frilly costume, but NONE of the hard work, strength, or endurance that it took for the pig to get invited to the world games. Lame! The athletic stuff wasn't girly enough? "She dreamed of being an ice-skating star and then she made it happen!" Oh. That was all it took, huh? The process deserves one entire sentence in the whole book. This is why parents spend thousands of dollars each year on equipment that is never used by their children. Children aren't shown how much Practice goes into becoming good, let alone Awesome, at sports and hobbies. I think Kristi Yamaguchi should have known better. Her sport is HARD and that's what makes her level of skill so impressive to children and adults. It's not the sparkly costume.

Margaret Chind says

Last year I fell in love with Dream Big, Little Pig! such a beautiful book with a great message. Now I can enjoy it all over again and add more to the encouragement for my girls. While before I was all excited about the pink and purple, this time I'm just as happy about the teal and purple. I cannot speak to the sparkly as I

have not seen the book in person yet (just an electronic copy on loan), but the story is worth it. The encouragement within these pages is great and I'm delighted that Kristi is writing such stories to share.

Thanks to Sourcebooks for loaning an eBook through NetGalley for review.

posted: <http://wp.me/pYHD5-3pt>

Amber Harrison says

A New York Times bestselling book. It's a big world, little pig takes place in New York City and Poppy travels to Paris to fulfill her dream of ice skating and meets a lot of new friends a long the way. Great for having kids tell/ draw what their dream is or where they would like to travel.

Glenajo says

Great for Inspiration

Poppy, the little pig is a talented skater that makes it to the World Games after much hard work. The games are far away, and Poppy is scared, but her friends and family are encourage her and give her great advice. When she arrives at the games in France, she learns that it is fun to make friends and competitors from all over the world want to make friends, too. She has a wonderful time meeting people and sharing with them.

Kristi Yamaguchi relies on her experiences as an international competitor to relate the fear and excitement of venturing out into the unknown. The words are very encouraging and motivating for the young people as they attempt new experiences. The illustrations put the story over the top, including the precious pictures of Poppy in her competition outfits and a parade of other animal competitors all set in France. Very cute story and one parents can share with children to encourage them in new experiences. Librarians could use this read aloud to stimulate discussions of fear of new experiences such as the first day of school, etc.

Received Galley from NetGalley.com

Kathy says

Loved the illustrations in this book and it has a great message.

This is the story of a little pig going off to a skating championship in Paris. She's nervous and unsure but along the way overcomes her fears, makes some friends and helps others out.

I've not read the first book Dream Big Little Pig and will check to see if my library has it.

Just one thing - It seemed like Poppy was all alone on this trip and had to figure things out by herself. When her parents were there to congratulate her after her performance my daughter said "I thought she was by herself". I'd got the same impression while reading the book, but perhaps parents aren't allowed in the

Athlete's Village so she wouldn't have had them with her?

Source: Netgalley

Andrea says

[This review also appears on Andi's Kids Books.]

Poppy is a pig who has dreams of being a star on the ice. All of her friends and family encourage her to do so and she gets invited to the World Games. Poppy is nervous to go all the way around the world. When in the Athlete's Village, she is worried that she isn't going to be able to make any new friends nor understand all of the different languages. She quickly befriends a Chinese skater named Li. She meets all kinds of different animals from around the world, sharing their customs and exchanging phrases in their native languages. It's all about being supportive of children's dreams and making friends around the world. The message is, "We all smile in the same language!"

You can feel Kristi's passion for her sport and love for people all around the world in her book. This is one that would go well with my multicultural collection.

The adorable illustrations remind me of Richard Scarry at times. They are simple and sweet. I really liked it.

I received an e-ARC in exchange for my honest review.

Karyn The Pirate says

Poppy the little pig who dreams big is finally an ice skating star. Now she follows her dream to Paris, France to compete in the World Games. While in Paris, Poppy must overcome her fears of being so far from home in a new place. But she soon learns that although we may not speak the same, we all smile in the same language.

This is a sequel to the book *"Dream Big Little Pig* by Kristi Yamaguchi. It is very nice with cute illustrations. Who doesn't love a pig in a bow? It was a little light and fluffy for my personal taste, but the message of being accepting of new people and places is a good one.

Jessica Harrison says

Review via Cracking the Cover

Poppy the ice skating pig is back, and she's just as charming as she was a year ago.

The creation of Olympic gold medalist Kristi Yamaguchi, Poppy is a persistent pig who, through a lot of hard work, became a star on the ice. In this follow-up, Poppy receives an invitation to reach for the stars and compete in the World Games.

The Games are being held in Paris, a long way from Poppy's home. But Poppy knows her friends and family will be with her every step of the way. The World Athlete Village is full of athletes from all over the world, many of them just as nervous as Poppy. Turns out everyone smiles in the same language!

As with "Dream Big, Little Pig!" "It's a Big World, Little Pig!" is an upbeat book about positive pig power. Instead of the competition of the World Games, Kristi focuses on friendship and facing fears. There's nothing about winning or losing, just performing to the best of your ability, which is a fine lesson for young children.

Most of all, "It's a Big World, Little Pig!" is a fun read. The illustrations are bright and bold, and all of the characters have great personality.
