



Hazel and Twig: The Birthday Fortune

Brenna Burns Yu

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A delightful debut about two sisters with big dreams provides a charming introduction to the doljabi, a Korean first birthday tradition.

Twig's first birthday is coming up, and her whole family -- especially her older sister, Hazel -- is eager to see what she will choose at her doljabi. Whatever item Twig chooses will tell her fortune: Will she pick a hammer and grow up to be a builder? Will she pick a lute and grow up to be a musician? Hazel is hoping that Twig will choose the yarn, just like she did when she was Twig's age. When the big day arrives and Twig makes an unexpected choice, will Hazel be able to help figure out what the future might hold for her little sister? Sweet, serious Hazel and the adorable Twig are certain to win the hearts of readers, who will long to enter their cozy woodland world.

Hazel and Twig: The Birthday Fortune Details

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Author : Brenna Burns Yu

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From Reader Review Hazel and Twig: The Birthday Fortune for online ebook

Rachel says

Adds in Korean traditions to a fun story of a young mouse's birthday, lovely soft illustrations.

Danielle says

I adore this book. Mice, sisters, charming elements like snails who deliver mail and buttercup collecting, pastel hanboks and a loving extended family. And at its center, the tradition of doljabi in which younger sister Twig will choose an item to predict her future. Something unexpected and wonderful happens at the moment she's choosing and basically I really want to see more of Hazel and Twig and their sweet experiences together.

JenLovesBooks says

This was a cute story about two sisters and preparing for a first birthday. I really liked how Hazel watched out for her little sister Twig and made sure to prepare the best birthday for her. Along with that, were the adorable illustrations and details that filled the pages of this book. There was the mail snail that collected the invites for the party, the dandelion kimchi, the gathering of the fireflies for the lanterns, and so much more.

Not only did that keep me and my daughter reading, but we learned more about a tradition we knew little about, that of doljabi. It was a lovely way to teach one about a first for many in the Korean culture, as well as telling my daughter what kimchi is, what a hanbok is and why Twig was so excited to wear hers, and the many Korean words that were a part of this book, a fun way to learn a little bit of the language. A very delightful read.

Annese says

I'll admit that I judged this book by its cover at first. I thought it was going to be another cutesy book about an annoying little sibling following the frustrated older sibling. (One could argue that it is.) However, I love the small aspect of Korean language and culture that were added throughout the book. That was unexpected! To me, it made the story more interesting.

Lynn says

Soft illustrations. Subtle hints gradually make reader realize the woodland creatures represent the Korean culture!

Pam says

A delightful story about celebrating the younger sister's (Twig) first birthday. The author takes us through Korean traditions surrounding this major event. She shares the food, dress and traditions that take place throughout the story. Softly colored illustrations support the text.
Glossary of Korean terms at the end.

J. says

Really sweet, albeit slightly quiet, illustrations--and as a Korean-American myself, I was really excited that Yu brought the *doljabi* tradition to life in this book. (Although I would have preferred people instead of mice as the main characters.) Lovely.

Tracie says

Hazel and Twig prepare for Twig's first birthday and are excited by what her *dojabi* might reveal about her future.

Lynn says

Different and welcome topic and adorable illustrations.

Logan says

I won this book in a Goodreads giveaway.

These two Korean mice are super adorable as they prepare for Twig's first birthday and her *doljabi*. This will give your child a small insight into Korean culture and make them fall in love with the characters in the book at the same time.

Natashasiberian79adgmail.Com says

Story was great. With the way I stumbled over the unknown to me words it was hard to keep my little one's attention on the story. Would recommend for 6 - 7 year olds as a way to learn.

The Library Lady says

Perhaps the author is one of those artists who can't draw people. Perhaps she is riffing on Rosemary Wells, who introduces kids to aspects of Japanese culture with her books about Yoko.

But somehow this doesn't work for me. Great story about Korean culture, but the delicate little mice, cute as they are, just don't do it for me here.

Mary Lee says

I'm a little conflicted about Korean birthday traditions in a story with mice as characters...Looks like this is an #ownvoice book, so maybe not an issue?

Stephanie says

Beautiful pictures! Children will love learning about this tradition. Longer review to come.
