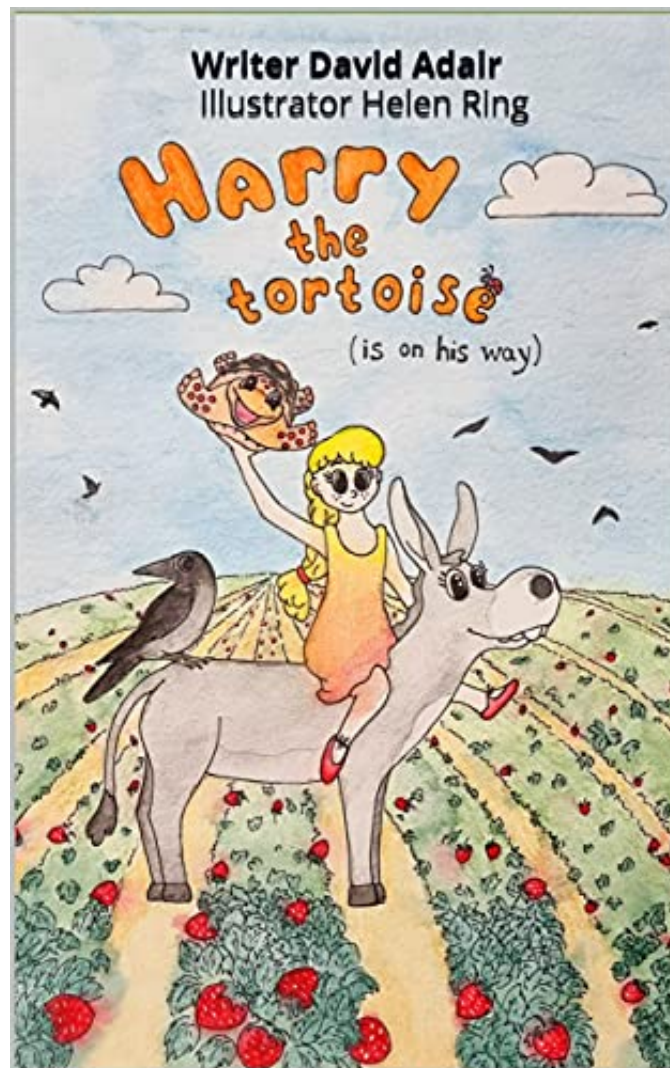


Harry the Tortoise : (Is on His Way) (Animal Adventures)

by

Laura Amy Schlitz



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Synopsis

'Harry the Tortoise (is on his way)' is one of the few books written in the first tortoise narrative. Through the mind of a family pet; a 17 year old red-footed tortoise, children of 8+ years old are taken on a journey. This is a journey that explores the themes of friendship, the environment, trust, nature, honesty, farming methods and being you. Harry's simple outlook on life shines a light on the value and depth of true friendship through Harry's connection with Dimmy the Donkey: "Friendship is important to Dimmy and I. For sure, we may not look or sound the same. We come from different parts of the world, but our love of strawberries brings us together. It's great to share a passion with your friend, isn't it? I think so. I first met Dimmy over a strawberry." Other characters such as Cecelia the Crow and Lorna Ladybird illuminate Harry's journey to find the world's biggest strawberry. However, it is the close friendship with Dimmy the Donkey that draws heavily on the theme of trust, despite physical and other differences. They use their differences to help each other out. There is innocence to Harry that comes out in the trusting relationship built up with Dimmy. Another side to friendship comes out through dependence. This is found in Harry's relationship with his owner Sophia; a young child. Mischievousness distracts Harry from his journey to the giant strawberry. That said, this simply adds to the entertainment of the story. There is a song, with full lyrics in chapter 5 that accompanies Harry's journey towards the strawberries. It is a song that stands alone without music, so the reader can join in and sing Harry on his way: "Harry the Tortoise is on his way; the problem is it'll take him all day, but when he makes it he's here to stay. It's just impossible for him to have any other way. Harry the Tortoise is on his way; the problem is it'll take him all day, but when he makes it he's here to stay. It's just impossible for him to have it any other way." Friendly images aid the accessible nature of this, at times educational, but always warm, welcoming and friendly story. The reader finds out more and more about Harry as he meets different characters, whilst trying to get to a giant strawberry. The story is simple to follow, whilst inviting thought on a range of topics. It is also written to educate children on the ways of tortoises, in particular; red-footed tortoises. The true story of Manuela, also a red-footed tortoise, is told from Harry's understanding and helps with this aim. The user-friendly layout of the story, makes this a perfect introduction to chapter books for children aged 8 years and older. The book is also suitable to be read to those under 8 years old.

What people say about this book

Megan, "Toddler loves it. Cute and my daughter loved it! She asked to read it several times."

Danielle, "Great book for kids. easy to read, cute point of view from a turtles standpoint. I would recommend this to anyone wanting to get their kids, nieces, nephews and any children something nice to read or get into chapter books."

Darcy H, "Love this content!. Witty and adorable rarely get seen together, but this author has definitely accomplished it! I highly recommend this."

Random Reader, "Harry is quite lovable from the get go.. So I sneaked a peek on my cloud reader, since I purchased the paperback for my children. And well Harry and his love of strawberries and his interesting way he has conceived of finding them is cute. The author has a way of weaving a network of friends into a warm tale that feels welcoming from the start. M. K. Dockery"

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