



## Bear and Chicken

*Jannie Ho*

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**Humor, a surprise ending, and an unlikely friendship make *Bear and Chicken* fall into the ranks with Mo Willems and Dev Petty, and the soup recipe at the end will inspire young chefs to get into the kitchen and cook!**

When Bear finds a chicken frozen in the winter snow, he brings it home to try to defrost it. As Chicken thaws-um, awakens-he fears that Bear is actually prepping to eat him. Oh no! All signs are pointing to a fateful end for Chicken-being wrapped like a burrito, chopped basil and veggies sitting on the counter, the huge pot on the stove that's just the right size for a chicken to fit inside.

It's almost time for lunch, so Chicken makes a run for it! But in the end, Chicken learns that perhaps he too quickly jumped to conclusions. This funny and clever friendship tale teaches kids that things are not always as they seem, while learning a thing or two about making soup with a friend!

## Bear and Chicken Details

Date : Published November 14th 2017 by Running Press Kids

ISBN : 9780762462667

Author : Jannie Ho

Format : Hardcover 40 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Storytime, Animals, Humor

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## From Reader Review Bear and Chicken for online ebook

### Crystal says

I read this book for a third grade class, and it was an absolute hit. That's because the art is good and the story is not only funny but also engaging--perhaps even slightly suspenseful. And it even comes with a recipe in the back for soup! (OK, the soup recipe doesn't necessarily help when reading to a group--but the kids got an extra laugh out of it, which you'll understand after you read the book. And for at home reading, the recipe could be a fun extension of the reading experience--and a tasty meal.) There's also a very brief note about the habits and diets of black bears that children may find interesting and hopefully educational.

Bear finds Chicken frozen in the woods and takes her home to thaw her. Then he starts to make soup. But what are his true intentions towards Chicken?! The kids I read to have a lot of fun figuring out what was going to happen as we read the book. The story has some subtle points about judging people by their appearance/ reputation, and about what overcoming those expectations can lead to. Fun to read to groups or individual children, and especially perfect for cozy reading in chilly winter weather. Highly recommended.

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### Katie says

Bear finds a Chicken frozen in the snow. Bear brings Chicken inside, and begins to cook soup--which Chicken assumes they will soon become apart of.

We have seen this before, where one character assumes they will be cooked and eaten by another only to be served a meal. This is another version, though it is cute in its own way. The illustrations are bright and warm and show Bear preparing the meal step by step. I'm a little confused why Bear has a shirt, pants, and boots, but Chicken is naked, but whatever. I did like how cooking terms are used throughout the story, such as Bear wondering how to defrost a chicken, and Chicken simmering in suspicion. They are well placed and don't distract from the flow of the text.

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### adeservingporcupine says

This is how you build suspense in children's books! The kids were so worried and I laughed at every page. In the end, there was a great (if predictable) little lesson. And there were so many fun things to notice in the pictures.

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### Cheryl says

Better than chicken soup for the soul is a book about bear and chicken friendship. The delightful tale starts as mix of misunderstanding but a pinch of kindness, concern and a special ingredient whips up masterpiece of a dish.

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### **Amanda says**

This made me apprehensive while I was reading it ("They wouldn't *really* have the Bear eat the Chicken *would* they?" was running through my head the entire time I was reading this, but hey! you read a Mo Willems book, and you never know!), and I think it may have changed how this book turned out for me.

I nervously enjoyed how it played with its words, saying things like "simmered in suspicion." There was a lot of strong verb use here. Yeah!

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### **Garrett says**

This book goes deep into profiling and stereotyping people before you get to know them properly. Snap judgements are a real problem in our society and no one knows that better than bears. We're quick to peg bears as vicious animals but really they're all sweethearts that want to make soup for cold chickens. And what thanks do they get in return? Stereotypes. Sure, there are SOME bears out there that would eat a chicken--but not all bears! Pinning expectations on an entire group because of your preconceived notions is simply wrong and chicken learned that the rude way.

Also, there's a recipe in the back of the book! Neato!

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### **Sarah says**

This would be a delight to read to a kindergarten class--the suspense for the poor chicken would play very well with this age group.

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### **Ro Menendez says**

Bears...bears eat everything, they are ferocious, they are carnivorous, they have cookbooks! So when chicken is found frozen in the woods and taken to bear's house, what is a reader, and a chicken supposed to think?!?! A story that is wonderfully illustrated, with details to explore, and just the right elements in the "frame" to keep that poor chicken, and readers, thinking that what we think we know about bears is true. With an ending I would ask any group of readers to scream out "Plot Twist"! and Soup Recipe on the last page that is easy to follow, Bear and Chicken will be a story worth revisiting.

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### **Jason says**

My 3 year old wants to read it every night. And it's a lovely book so I don't mind.

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### **Diane says**

Just what is Bear's intentions when he brings chicken in from the cold. Bear is preparing lunch, after all, and when Chicken wakes up all he can see is Bear's big teeth. Is Chicken about to become the main course? Chicken doesn't wait around to find out ... she runs out of the house with Bear in close pursuit.

Includes a recipe for Bear's Vegetable Soup.

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### **Peacegal says**

Bear discovers a shivering chicken in the snowy forest outside his cabin. Bear brings the bird inside, but as Bear chops veggies and prepares a soup, Chicken fears he's next on the menu! Chicken (and the reader) then learn a valuable lesson about jumping to conclusions!

Fantastic! THIS is how you do a humane-themed picture book. It's fun, it's engaging, and there's nothing in it to turn off mainstream audiences. When I turned to the back of the book and saw the recipe for (chicken-friendly!) vegetable soup, it bumped BEAR & CHICKEN up to five stars.

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### **Gina Perry says**

Bear and Chicken has all the classic ingredients, cooked with just the right touch of sweetness, darkness, humor, and simmering suspense. My kids loved the (totally age appropriate!) scary bits and enjoyed guessing Bear's plot towards the end. A great book for family or school and a really fun read-aloud.

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### **Chana Stiefel says**

Our family takes soup very seriously, and so does Bear! One day, Bear discovers a chicken frozen in the snow. "How does one defrost a chicken?" thought Bear. Debut author & illustrator Jannie Ho had us cracking up as we fell in love with Bear and Chicken. Poor chicken, wrapped up like a burrito, jumps to the wrong conclusions about her soup-stirring rescuer. Or does she? As bear consults his cookbook, boils water, and chops basil, chicken simmers with suspicion. Will Chicken end up in Bear's soup? (Big bonus: There's a recipe in the back! And a sweet note about good-natured, vegetarian black bears.) Ho's hilarious puns and adorable illustrations will have kids and adults asking for seconds and thirds!

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### **Kate Olson says**

This is a new bedtime story favorite for my 6 year old daughter! The story is just dark enough to be a little shocking, but no worries, there is a sweet ending. The vivid and super cute illustrations make it even better, and I really adore the different sizes and fonts for the words BEAR and CHICKEN. Little design elements like this heighten the reading experience and provide great guidance for children as they attempt to read along.

I can't wait to share this at school - I guarantee that kids will predict that the bear is making chicken soup and we can have great discussions about predictions and clues. Highly recommend this one for read alouds in elementary grades - even my 5th graders will enjoy the humor and suspense!

Thanks so much to the publisher for this review copy ~ we love it.

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**Jason Gallaher says**

This is such a funny take on mistaken identities and assuming you know someone before you really get to know them. And the set up of the problem: "How does one defrost a chicken?" made me literally LOL. Ho's facial expressions on both Bear and Chicken are fantastic too, and tell a story all on their own!

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