



## Noodle & Lou

*Liz Garton Scanlon , Arthur Howard (Illustrator)*

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Noodle and Lou are unlikely friends. One is a worm and one is a bird. When Noodle is having a bad day, Lou knows just what to say to cheer up his wormy friend and help him see what it means to be liked just the way you are.

## Noodle & Lou Details

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Author : Liz Garton Scanlon , Arthur Howard (Illustrator)

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## From Reader Review Noodle & Lou for online ebook

### Bailey Bergman says

I liked this book because it shows how everyone and everything is different in many ways and that it is okay. It shows you how if only you saw yourself through someone else's eyes that you would be surprised. It teaches children how to love themselves for who they are. Great book for all elementary kids!

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### Karen says

My five-year-old son picked this book out from the library this week.

I like the title. I like the illustrations. I even like the story. It's the text that trips me up a bit. The text itself can be a bit confusing at times, and crosses over from sweet to saccharine. Still, overall, the idea is good.

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### Audrey Ibarra says

Noodle & Lou

"Noodle and Lou are unlikely friends. One is a worm and one is a bird. When Noodle is having a bad day, Lou knows just what to say to cheer up his wormy friend and help him see what it means to be liked just the way you are."

I rated this book with 4 stars. I chose this book because I read it in class one day and I loved how it shows the power of friendship through a bird and a worm. Also how it's saying that even the most unlikely of people can be friends and lift your spirits on a bad day. I think this would be great for ages 3-8.

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### Alyson (Kid Lit Frenzy) says

I know I should compare this with Scanlon's ALL THE WORLD but it is hard not to. Noodle & Lou while a sweet story about friendship and self-esteem - is just that a sweet story. Granted there is irony in that one is a bird and the other a worm which should pose a problem for the two but doesn't seem to.

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### Allie Mueller says

Type: Picture book

Literary genre: poetry

Awards: None

Summary: Noodle the worm wakes up one day in a gloomy mood.

Critique: I really love the theme of self acceptance in this book. It teaches the reader the lesson of loving oneself for who he/she is. The author also communicates the importance of kindness and friendship, which I

think everyone in this world could use a daily lesson on. People forget how much a difference they can make in others' lives just by being supportive and kind.

Questions: Pg 1: What do you think a "rain-cloudy heart" feels like? Pg. 8: What do you think Lou means by, "life is a surprise"?

Craft elements: This story has a lot of interesting vocabulary, especially adjectives, that would likely be unfamiliar to children. It would be perfect for a vocabulary lesson, and for practicing using context clues. The teacher could ask students about the meanings of the words, and students could figure them out using context clues and hints from the illustrations.

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## **Destiny Dawn Long says**

Things I like about this book:

- +Fun illustrations with humorous details
- +The first two pages of text
- +Positive message on self-esteem and how others view you
- +The length is just about perfect for reading time with my daughter.

Things I didn't like about this book:

- Dialogue can be confusing because sometimes there are no tags
- Dialogue is pretty schmaltzy

My daughter enjoys the book and I don't mind reading it to her. The illustrations compensate some for the schmaltzy rhymes.

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## **Bridget R. Wilson says**

Noodle wakes up in a mood. Nothing suits him. Luckily, his good friend Lou is there to cheer him up.

What I thought: A great book about friendship. I like how Lou doesn't get discouraged by Noodle's gloominess. The illustrations are good. I like the bold lines. My favorite illustrations are Noodle & Lou hugging and Noodle and Lou flying (last page).

Story Time Themes: Friendship, Moods

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## **Angie says**

Seriously? Only a three star average? I actually thought about giving it five ... but I really don't do that very often so I stuck with four.

I thought this was adorable. The little worm questions his worth and his best buddy ... a large bird ... reminds him of how great he is.

Love a fun rhyming story. Love the illustrations.

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### **Kerri Harshaw says**

In this book, a worm wishes he was different and not a worm anymore. He was very down about being a worm, but along came a great friend named Lou (a bird) that helped the worm feel better about himself. A great book to teach young children to be happy and thankful for who they are. Just because they don't look like other people/animals, doesn't mean they aren't amazing and worthwhile for being who they are.

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### **Donna Mork says**

Noodle the worm is feeling depressed. His friend Lou tells him the good things about all the negative things he says. Noodle realizes he's right. It's good to see yourself through your friends eyes sometimes.

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### **Barbara says**

Poor Noodle! Things aren't going too well for this worm. Miserable, he calls on his bird friend Lou who points out his positive attributes and reminds him to see himself through the eyes of others. Lou also points out that perspective can change how we feel about ourselves or life's challenges. This is a message worth hearing even though most of us have heard it before. It's interesting that a friendship exists between this unlikely pair. The watercolor illustrations complement the text nicely and show the personalities of bird and worm.

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### **Laura says**

Lots of people seem to dislike this book! I haven't read *All the World* but I put it on my TBR pile so I can compare.

Noodle, a worm, is friends with Lou, a bird. Despite this unnatural friendship, which seems to bother a lot of people, Lou is a very supportive friend. When Noodle has a gray day, Lou cheers him up and helps make the world look a little brighter.

My biggest problem with the book was that the dialog will be confusing for kids. On one page, the dialog goes back and forth, includes quotation marks and no speaker tags, and was confusing even for me! There are a lot of ways to solve this kind of text problem.

I did like the illustrations. They're bold and have a rough kind of feel. The perspective shifts constantly, adding visual interest.

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### **Shannon says**

For charming worm stories, I'll stick with the Owly series. I was surprised by the pull that typography had on

me as I picked up this book. The cover text looked like the same font used in My Friend Rabbit and Duck! Rabbit! Because I love those two books, I guess I had some bias expecting this one to be similarly charming.

I've become very picky in rhyming lately, I've found. So lines like:

"But also - no feet," Noodle said with a shrug / "I think you're complete." And Lou gave him a hug.

... strike me as overly cheesy. The mood of this book almost makes me think of the banter and rhyming in "Baby, It's Cold Outside." And chances are you can guess my feelings on that date-rape Christmas tune.

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### **Ariel Cummins says**

A charming book about a worm who gets up on the wrong side of the bed and is cheered up by the relentless optimism of his best friend, Lou (a bird!). I know some people had issue with the shifting of speakers within on single pages, but I think this book screams to be read outloud. The short, lyrical phrases and back in forth nature of the dialogue lend themselves to fun voices and a dynamic storytime.

The art is a bit primitive, but bright and bold.

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### **Judy Desetti says**

A gloomy day is brightened by a best friend who tells his friend all the positive things about him. The unlikely friends, a worm Lou and a bird Noodle, do not seem to notice one should be food for the other.

I like the rhyme and flow of the text. But, I did not like the dialog running together, it was hard to know when to change voice and pause a bit for dramatic effect.

*I'm dirty and mucky!  
You're wiggly and plucky.  
I'm skinny and bare.  
With your own special flare.*

Illustrations were good and supported the story.

I will be adding this to our collection. I think talking about how to build up friendships and saying positive things to others is an important life lesson.

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