



# Rotten Richie and the Ultimate Dare

*Patricia Polacco*

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## **Rotten Richie and the Ultimate Dare** Patricia Polacco

Seems like Richie's entire goal in life is to make Trisha's impossible. Especially when he takes to teasing her about her beloved ballet class. Trisha knows how much work it takes to be good at ballet--much more than the stupid hockey Richie plays! So she challenges Richie to perform in her ballet recital, and Richie agrees, under one condition: Trisha has to join his hockey team for the big game!

## **Rotten Richie and the Ultimate Dare Details**

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Author : Patricia Polacco

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Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Realistic Fiction, Fiction, Family, Sports, Hockey, Historical, Historical Fiction, Humor, Funny

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## From Reader Review Rotten Richie and the Ultimate Dare for online ebook

### Randie D. Camp, M.S. says

Polacco shares a story from her childhood that most readers can relate to...the time she and her brother made the ultimate dare.

Trisha loved ballet. Richie loved hockey. But they each thought the other's sport was stupid and easy. After Richie had taunted Trisha in front of the boys at school, Trisha triple dares him to practice ballet and be in her ballet recital. Richie agrees under the condition that Trisha practices and plays a game of hockey...can they both succeed at the dare?

Great story, humorous illustrations, and the ending portrays another, more loving side of siblings.

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### Satia says

A common trope that manages to be fun and charming.

For the full review of this and two other books, [click here](#).

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### Shellie says

Because of my love for well illustrated children's books someone recommended this author/illustrator. And I'm so glad!

Taken from her own life, she dares her brother to be in her ballet dance recital, in return he says she has to play in one of his hockey games. They do it. I'm sure it was an amazing time for both of them. There are actual photographs in the covers of these events. and yes the illustration are fun. Seriously- who would think to dare their brother to do this and actually have it work?!

"I triple dog dare you... with skin-do's and two-ups!" to find this author/illustrator and NOT enjoy what you find.

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### Ronyell says

I have been reading Patricia Polacco's works for many years now and after reading one of her works My Rotten Redheaded Older Brother, I just had to read more about Patricia Polacco's brother Richie! So, I just recently picked up "Rotten Richie and the Ultimate Dare" and I have to say that I was really impressed with

this book!

Trisha knows how hard it is to deal with her annoying older brother Richie, especially when he starts making fun of Trisha's ballet class! So to teach him a lesson, Trisha dares Richie to perform in the ballet recital with her. But Richie will only do it on one condition: Trisha has to play the big hockey game with him!

Wow! I was totally amazed by this book! Patricia Polacco, as always, has done a brilliant job at telling the readers her life story as a child, with her "Richie" books being the funniest among her collection! I loved the way that Patricia Polacco showed the sibling rivalry between her and her older brother Richie as it was interesting to see and it slightly reminded me of how I get along with my siblings! I also loved the plot of this story about Trisha wanting to show Richie that ballet is not as easy as it look with Richie doing the same about letting Trisha play hockey with him. I like how the two siblings learn to have a better understanding of each other as they both try out the different activities that the other sibling usually plays at and it was interesting seeing how their experiences with doing different activities made them grow as characters. Patricia Polacco's illustrations are as usual gorgeous to look at as the characters look extremely realistic and I loved the outfits that Richie and Trisha are both wearing as Trisha wears a lovely pink ballet costume and Richie wears a large red hockey suit with "Beavers 13" printed on it.

Overall, "Rotten Richie and the Ultimate Dare" is a brilliant follow up to "My Rotten Redheaded Older Brother" and anyone who is a huge fan of books about sibling rivalry will definitely enjoy this book! I would recommend this book to children ages five and up since the name calling that Trisha and Richie engage in such as Richie calling Trisha "twerp" might be a bit inappropriate for younger children.

**Review is also on: Rabbit Ears Book Blog**

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### **Brenna Johnson says**

Turn about is fair play!

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### **Josie says**

Rotten Richie and the Ultimate dare was a hilarious book that was filled with a great purpose. I enjoyed the good clean conflict that brother/sister love results to; competition. I feel like a lot of students could relate to either siblings or friends competition that goes on in their life. The purpose of this book is to teach gender stereotypes. This is a good lesson to incorporate in the classroom is not to judge someone unless you have been in their shoes. Another lesson that this book introduces is not to judge a book by its cover. This book would be good to read to K-5th graders. The pictures are very inciting and brings humor to the characters.

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### **Jen says**

Read this aloud with a second grader. It makes me wonder just how many Patricia Polacco books are out there I don't know about! This one really speaks to putting yourself in the shoes of someone else. It would be a great mentor text to teach narrative writing.

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## **Lexus Beedy says**

### Personal Reaction:

Like all other Patricia Polacco books that I have read, I really enjoyed reading this one. She has strengths in both texts and illustrations in all of her books and always finds a way to relate her take away lessons to children.

### Purpose:

This book would be appropriate for a read aloud of children between 2nd-3rd graders.

This book exemplifies many brother and sister relationships. While they bicker and fight with each other, they stick up for one another in the end. This is a good lesson for students to learn if they have siblings, as we don't always treat our siblings with kindness. While this book is appealing in parts to boys and in others to girls, it's a great read aloud for all students. The teacher should either explain up front or during the reading terms that are associated with either hockey or ballet that not all students will not be familiar with. A major theme to grasp from this book is not judging a book by its cover, meaning not all things are how they seem. In this case, the brother believed he could easily do ballet and the sister believed she could easily play hockey. While neither considering all the hard work that the other puts into the sport. This also brings up stereotypes that society has. Teachers should explain what a stereotype is and express the stereotype regarding sports provided in this book where girls take ballet and boys play hockey. Patricia Polacco books have wonderful texts and illustrations. She creates a sense of drama revolved around the conflict which allows teachers to ask students to predict what they think will happen next. Figurative language is commonly incorporated in Polacco's work, in this case the use of metaphors in the first few pages. A lesson could be created by involving figurative language with identifying them in this book and creating their own metaphors. This expresses how figurative language makes reading more interesting.

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## **Barbara says**

Anyone who's read many of Patricia Polacco's books knows that she loves to draw from her own life experiences to tell her stories. Some of those stories are quite poignant, and others are humorous. She often blends the two elements masterfully while including some sort of important life lesson. In this, the follow-up to her earlier *My Rotten Redheaded Older Brother*, she and her brother Richie are at it again. As is often the case with siblings, neither one is able to appreciate the extracurricular activities enjoyed by the other. After Richie belittles Trisha's ballet class one time too many, she challenges him to try out ballet for himself so he can see how hard it is. Not to be outdone, Richie accepts her dare--partly because he has no choice since his friends are all watching--and insists that she practice with his ice hockey team and play in a game. Everything goes as expected with both youngsters coming to appreciate what the other one enjoys doing. Naturally, both are able to rely on each other when the chips are down. After all, they are brother and sister, no matter their differences. The pencil and marker illustrations are filled with many funny scenes of Trish on ice, suited up in protective gear so thoroughly that her face is barely visible, and Richie, svelte in tights stumbling about the stage. This one will make anyone with a brother or sister smile because many of the experiences and feelings described here will be familiar to them. Although it isn't my favorite title in the Patricia Polacco collection, I still enjoyed it a great deal and can see the appeal it has for youngsters. The fact that there are photos of Trisha and her brother on the end papers will only add to the story's verisimilitude.

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### **Lisa Vegan says**

This is another non-fiction picture book about the author and her brother when they were kids. It's the second book I've read about this pair, the first being [My Rotten Red- Headed Older Brother:]. I liked this one better than the first one.

I really loved the illustrations of the ballet scenes. I learn something new about Patricia Polacco and her family with almost every one of her books. I guess this is non-fiction, although it seems like a plot in a 70s sitcom. Very interesting. Tricia and her brother participate in each other's sports to prove they can do it: her brother in ballet, she in ice hockey.

The photos of the author and her brother included on the inside front and back covers are a wonderful addition.

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### **Carol Royce Owen says**

I've had this in my collection of Patricia Polacco's books, and hadn't realized until today that I had never read it! How could I not love this wonderful follow up to My Rotten Red Headed Older Brother, when I have four "Richie's" of my own at home. No, my brothers never dared me to join a hockey team, nor I them to dance ballet, but there were so, so many dares, that there was much I could relate to.

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### **Beverly says**

Memoir of a competition between brother and sister.

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### **Julie Barrett says**

Rotten Richie and the ultimate dare by Patricia Polacco

This children's book is about a brother and sister. Each has their own hobby/sport and think it's better than their sibling.

She tells us of his bad habits and smells and he does the same about her. The big dare is one neither of them want to miss.

He has to go to her ballet recital and she has to go to his final hockey game. Like what they each discover. I received this book from National Library Service for my BARD (Braille Audio Reading Device).

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### **Dolly says**

We really enjoy Patricia Polacco's stories and so we look for them often at our local library. Lucky for us, she is a very prolific writer, so we still have a lot of her books to discover.

This is a follow-up tale to the story My Rotten Redheaded Older Brother. In this story, both Tricia and

Richie learn to appreciate each other's hobbies by experiencing them. While the story is fictionalized, it is loosely based on her childhood. This book offers some good insights into the complexity of sibling relationships.

We really enjoyed reading this book together and we will certainly look for more of her books at our local library.

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### **Christy says**

Seems like Richie's entire goal in life is to make Trisha's impossible. Especially when he takes to teasing her about her beloved ballet class. Trisha knows how much work it takes to be good at ballet—much more than the stupid hockey Richie plays! So she challenges Richie to perform in her ballet recital, and Richie agrees, under one condition: Trisha has to join his hocke.

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