



Turk and Runt: A Thanksgiving Comedy

Lisa Wheeler , Frank Ansley (Illustrator)

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Turk's parents are proud of him, the biggest, strongest, most graceful bird at Wishbone Farm. "He's a dancer," says his mother.

"He's an athlete," says his father.

"He's a goner," says his little brother, Runt.

But no one ever listens to Runt -- even after people with seasonal plans and roasting pans begin showing up at Wishbone Farm, or even after the juiciest turkeys are chosen, one by one.

"Chosen for what?" Turk asks.

No one wants to hear Runt's answer. But you will laugh at what he has to do to get the family's attention. They are, after all, turkeys. And rarely has a story about them been told with such warmth and cleverness. Or with such witty pictures.

Turk and Runt: A Thanksgiving Comedy Details

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From Reader Review Turk and Runt: A Thanksgiving Comedy for online ebook

Calista says

This is not much to look at, but it's a great story. This is about appreciating the talents you have and respecting people who have different talents. How often being smart and knowing what's going on in the bigger picture is not as well thought of as people who do things or actions. It's so easy to see talent. We need all of it and not just one kind of person in the world.

This is very humorous. Of course my nephew loved this odd little story. He got the humor and quirky-ness of it. He gave it 5 stars. The niece didn't like the art and I think it biased her on the story and she gave it 2 stars. oh well.

Runt is a little smart guy that no one listens to in his family because his big brother is an athlete his father is proud of and a dancer his mother is proud of. Still, Run saves his life two times so he's not eaten. At the end Runt is in danger of being eaten by a single old lady looking for a small bird and Older brother saves his life. They start listening to runt after that. It's cute and funny. See how your kids feel about the story.

Patricia says

The snowmen at the end were too funny!! Also read for Thanksgiving 2014 and we look forward to reading it again next year.

Fast forward to 2015, it is still a very funny and enjoyable book. It has become a family tradition to read it for Thanksgiving.

Katie Pszczola says

Loved Turk and Runt! I used this book for a main idea lesson in my second grade class. The students loved the story because it is so captivating! I could also see this book used in a beginning middle and end lesson very well because there is a clear distinction between the different parts!

Phuong Dao says

This book is about Turk and Runt. Both of them are brother but Turk was always the famous one in his family because he was big and strong. Vise versa nobody would listen to Runt. All day long Turk would practice to be big and strong, and Runt warned him that people would eat big turkey only but nobody listen to Runt. Finally they realized what Runt was saying was true when the old lady came and try to eat Runt. At last their whole family get together and thanks for a delicious dinner together. This book is good for teaching children to repect other opinion when they say something to us.

Sandie says

My daughter (5) and I both really liked this story....it was fun!

About two young turkeys and their parents who are fairly delusional in thinking that people that come to the farm to pick turkeys are looking for anything besides a meal for their tables. But Runt the youngest son is not deluded....he knows and time and time again comes to the rescue....but nobody ever listens to him when he warns them so he just keeps coming to the rescue...but suddenly its his turn to need rescuing. Will his crys for help be answered....

Really fun story...easy to read and the pictures are pretty fun as well.

Amy Burch says

Runt is the small one in the family, while Turk is big and strong. People keep coming to visit the farm and Turk and his parents believe it is to give Turk awesome oppurtunities. Runt knows that the people are visiting to find a delcious turkey for Thanksgiving. No one believes him until almost the end of the story where he saves the day. The is would be a wonderful book to read for Thanksgiving. It is funny book that children will appreciate.

Jess says

Turk and Runt are brothers. Their parents think people come to Wishbone Farm to find turkeys for ballets and football games. Runt knows this is crazy and endeavors to keep his family alive.

Goofy, definitely goofy. After reading this and I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Pie I asked the kids to tell me which they liked better. All but two choose this book. That surprised me.

It's odd, unlikely, and a bit of a hoot. Turk and his parents truly believe someone will cast him in a ballet or add him to their football team. When a Madame and Coach show up, they push Turk to demonstrate his skills. Meanwhile, Runt's in the background acting like a jester. He even has a line about basting. So yeah, worth a read, even if it's a little longer than I'd like.

Plus, you get to pull out zee French accent for three lines.

3/4 stars

Relyn says

I have a string of Thanksgiving books that I read to my daughter and my second graders. These will be quick

reviews based on the reactions of my daughter and students. I put the date the same for each book, but I really read them in the week leading up to Thanksgiving, and on Thanksgiving Day. Under the how many times I've read it category, that will be how many Thanksgivings I've used this book.

This one was funny. Every child laughed. It can also lead to great discussions about feeling left out or ignored because you are little or younger or not as talented. Reminded me of *Howay for Wodney Wat*, one of my favorite books ever.

Judi says

This is a cute read aloud for Thanksgiving suitable for K-4. It's funny and has great funny pictures. It can be read in 15 minutes. Older children can look for figures of speech and explain the meanings of the phrases. Fun story.

Kathryn says

My favorite Thanksgiving read for 2010! I loved this book!!! It's about a handsome big-brother turkey named Turk and how his parents have big plans for him for Thanksgiving (he could be a dancer, or a sportsman!) but his little brother, Runt, warns them that big, plump turkeys actually meet an awful fate at Thanksgiving. But, "no one ever listens to Runt." Of course, he is right, and the ensuing drama (told, none the less, with a great deal of humor and charm) involves him trying to rescue Turk. But, there's a surprising twist at the end!

I don't think it's giving away much to say that these turkeys make it through Thanksgiving without ending up as a roasted centerpiece. The fun of the story is in how they do it. In a world where picture books about Thanksgiving often feature turkeys as dinner, I think this offering is one that vegetarians and vegans could appreciate. But, really, I just love all the different layers to this story--that a boy could be a dancer and/or an athlete, that the littlest ones in the family are often ignored even though they are often the most perceptive, and that brotherly love can triumph. I thought the text was just right and the illustrations added the right amount of humor and drama. Hooray for "Turk and Runt"!!!

Samantha Peterson says

A cute story to read with students during Thanksgiving time. My cooperating teacher read it to her students this week, and then typed-up a readers theater script to go along with it that they will perform the day before Thanksgiving. It had great illustrations and is easy to follow!

Terri says

Thanksgiving picture books are not overly abundant, so I was pleased when I ran across this in a local book store. Lisa Wheeler has turned out one of the most uproarious read-alouds you can imagine. This tale of the

unappreciated, heroic nerd who repeatedly saves his parents and athletic big brother will have listeners rolling with laughter when you share it aloud!

Mariah Roze says

This is a funny picture book that tells the story of a younger brother (turkey) helping his other brother not be eaten.

Casandria says

Turk is the athletic and graceful older turkey brother. Runt is the smart one, who know why people are visiting the farm to "pick out a turkey". Lots of fun.
Thanksgiving

Rebecca says

We loved this one!
