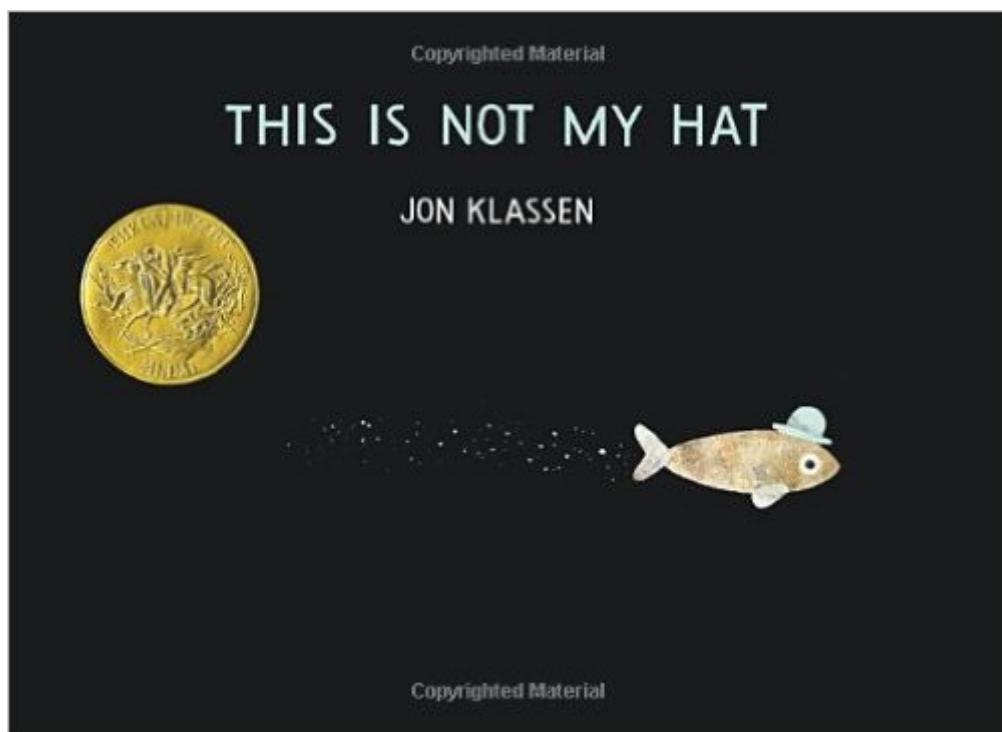


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# This Is Not My Hat



## **Synopsis**

WINNER OF THE 2013 CALDECOTT MEDAL! From the creator of the #1 New York Times best-selling and award-winning *I Want My Hat Back* comes a second wry tale. When a tiny fish shoots into view wearing a round blue topper (which happens to fit him perfectly), trouble could be following close behind. So it's a good thing that enormous fish won't wake up. And even if he does, it's not like he'll ever know what happened. . . . Visual humor swims to the fore as the best-selling Jon Klassen follows his breakout debut with another deadpan-funny tale.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 340L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Candlewick; 1St Edition edition (October 9, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0763655996

ISBN-13: 978-0763655990

Product Dimensions: 11.4 x 0.4 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (403 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,757 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #6 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Fish #23 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Values #30 in Books > Children's Books > Mysteries & Detectives

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## **Customer Reviews**

Received as a review book at the PNBA Bookseller convention Tacoma WA. Reviewer: Abbygail aged 6 and her Grammy, aged old. Abbygail says: My (first grade) science teacher read "I Want My Hat Back" and I liked it. I read "This Is Not My Hat" by myself with Grammy's help. The words were easy or hard to read. I sounded-out the hard words and now they are easy. I liked the story and I liked the big fish. The bubbles create movement. The little fish was bad and the big fish was just a big fish. You don't steal from a big fish. Grammy says: Jon was kind enough to speak at the bookseller convention and explain his thought process in creating this book. I was going to take notes but I was laughing too hard. I found the colors muted - mostly in browns, greens, greys, and black. The drawings were simple. The language was limited and the story line very straight forward.

The dialog is all little fish comments. The big fish actually shows all the emotions Jon Klassen proves himself an expert at editing both language and content. In other words, Jon is a genius. My first grade Abbygail has taken to reading and easily read most of little fish comments. The words she had problems with like "probably" and "won't" were repeated over and over and she quickly recognized them. This is a quick read even for a noobie reader and at first she wanted to race through the story until she noticed the EYE... and then later the bubbles which she explained to me shows movement. "See grammy big fish isn't moving because bubbles go up... and now big fish is moving." Be prepared to read this book over and over. There is a moral. The ending is open for discussion.

This Is Not My Hat is a companion piece to Jon Klassen's earlier I Want My Hat Back, only it takes place underwater instead of in a forest; and the story is told from the point of view of the thief and not the, er, victim. The end result, however, is pretty much the same. If you don't like I Want My Hat Back because of the conclusion, you will not like This Is Not My Hat, either. It helps to have a sense of humor. It helps even more if your humor has dark tendencies. The artwork for This is Not My Hat is every bit as wickedly delightful as the earlier book's, with a bit more of a build-up in the tension and a seek-and-find on one of the two-page spreads.

A morality tale with humor and wonderful art. Teach your children that just because you can get away with something doesn't mean it's right. Well told and beautiful pages make this a keeper.

I look for books with award seals and thought I was getting something great with this book. Until I read it. While it is a nice book and the pictures are fair, it is very short and the story line is about a small fish who steals a hat that belongs to a bigger fish. The little fish assumes the big fish won't know it's him, and hides in tall grass. Much is inferred in the pictures, which younger children don't/can't get, as there are few words. The big fish immediately discovers it is the little fish who has taken his hat and finds him in the tall grass. There is a page showing just the tall grass, where both the big fish and the little fish are supposedly facing off, though it doesn't show anything but tall grass. Then the book ends with the big fish leaving the tall grass with the hat back on and we never see or hear from the little fish again. Did the little fish get beaten up? Was he eaten by the larger fish? Did the fish come to an arrangement or work out their differences through positive conflict resolution? Did the little fish take any responsibility for his thievery and apologize? We'll never know. And while I got this book for preschoolers, it is a bit over their heads to understand the nuances of

the story, as they are rather vague. When I am done reading I am unsure is this is a parable for not stealing, or if it is a lesson in how not to mess with someone bigger than you, or if there is supposed to be any lesson at all.

This is a quirky and delightful book about a fish who stole a hat from a very big fish. He is very boastful and thinks he can get away from the big fish! Turns out, things might be so easy for such a prideful little fish. I think this book has been a great vehicle for delivering lesson on pride and boasting for some kids and it also helps with prediction! It is very convenient to stop at the pages and ask the child what they think might happen next. It is also a treat to talk about the somewhat open ending. It is clear to an adult or older child that the fish was probably eaten in the end...or was he?! It sure got some laughs from my 6-7 yr old crowd.

The little fish steals the big fishes hat and tries to hide away with it. But justice will be served. The illustrations are absolutely wonderful and the writing is such that most of the story is inferred. However, I did not like the theme of stealing. Yes, he gets caught. Yes, he loses the hat but I never want my children to think, even for a moment, that stealing is okay as long as you don't get caught which is a large part of what I got from this book.

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