

APPENDIX 2.3 Book Review of *Bink & Gollie*

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Bink & Gollie by Kate DiCamillo and Alison McGhee and illustrated by Tony Fucile is one of the greatest stories about the adventures of best friends ever told. If you like *Frog and Toad* or the *Ivy & Bean* books, you have to read *Bink & Gollie*, too.

The book tells the story of Bink and Gollie through words and really fun pictures. Bink is very short with wild hair and lots of energy. She is excited about everything from socks to goldfish, and she seems to always be moving or ready to leap into action at any minute. Gollie is very different from Bink. She is tall and is a bit more serious. She talks very differently than most girls her age. The way she speaks can sometimes sound like a riddle or poetry. These two characters are what make the book so wonderful. Even though they are very different, they are great friends. Bink can always understand what Gollie is saying, even if she doesn't come right out and say it, and both girls love to roller-skate and go on adventures.

The next best thing about the book is the illustrations. The pictures tell their own story. Without looking

at the words, you can understand each girl's personality. Bink has wild hair to match her energy, and even when she is standing still looking into a store selling colorful socks, you can see from the illustration that she is dying to go in and buy a pair. When Gollie sits on a couch, walks, or roller-skates, she seems very graceful and a little more grown up than Bink. The other cool thing about the pictures is that they show you the girls' houses, and they look like every kid's dream. Gollie's house is in a tree! Bink lives in a small cottage just below the tree, and everything in her house is smaller than normal to match her size.

The problem is that because the girls are different, they sometimes disagree. For example, Bink loves bright colors, but Gollie does not, saying, "The brightness of those socks pains me. I beg you not to purchase them." To stay friends, Bink and Gollie have to figure out how to do things they might not want to in order to be a good friend and bring happiness to another person. You'll have to read the book to hear about their adventures and to find out if they solve their differences and stay friends.