

Children's Literature Reviews

Item 5 of 130

Tea party for two

Michelle Poploff ; illustrated by Maryann Cocca-Leffler.

[Publisher description](#)

New York : Delacorte Press, c1997.

41 p. : col. ill. ; 20 cm.

Annotations:

"A Yearling first choice chapter book."

While Kim and Amy make one last trip inside the house before beginning their outdoor tea party, Walter and the neighbor dog eat up all the food left in the back yard.

"Ages 5-8"--Cover p. [4].

Horn Book Guide:

1997 Fiction Rating 5, Marginal, seriously flawed, but with some redeeming quality.

Reading Measurement Programs:

Lexile, MetaMetrics, Inc.

Lexile Measure 330

Reviews:

Gwynne Spencer (Children's Literature)

Kim and Amy set up the most perfect tea party picnic you can imagine outside under the trees, then race inside to wash their hands. Meanwhile, Hungry Jack, the neighbor's dog, and his sidekick, Walter come upon the scene and help themselves to the "leftovers." It all ends happily with a birthday celebration for Happy Jack. 1997, Yearling, \$3.99. Ages 4 up.

Kirkus (Kirkus Reviews, 1997)

In this entry in the First Choice Chapter Book series, Poploff (Busy O'Brien and the Caterpillar Punch Bunch, 1992, etc.) divides an easy-to-read story into several scenes about Amy and Kim, who are enjoying a tea party. The story begins with the delivery of the invitation ("P.S. No brothers or sisters allowed") and moves along with the inclusion of plenty of lighthearted details. The pinnacle of the occasion is the cupcakes with pink icing, to be served at just the right moment, on special china with specially decorated napkins. The girls are good friends, listening to Amy's stomach gurgle and getting goofy with soap bubbles in the sink. They are not too crushed when they find that Kim's brother has fed the picnic to himself and the dog because this book is not going to have an unhappy ending, and there are more cupcakes for the girls in the kitchen. The emphasis on the friendship is the book's strongest quality, with genial illustrations that will soothe those who like their tea parties simple and sweet. 1997, Delacorte, \$13.95; paper \$3.99. © 1997 Kirkus Reviews/VNU eMedia, Inc. All rights reserved.

Horn Book (The Horn Book Guide, 1997)

Friends Amy and Kim plan a backyard tea party only to have it unintentionally sabotaged by Kim's brother and a neighborhood dog. The lukewarm response the girls' have upon discovering most of their food has been eaten is representative of the story as a whole, which, despite its pleasant spring-colored illustrations, is rather flat and unengaging. (First Choice Chapter Book series). Category: Fiction. 1997, Delacorte, 48pp.. Ages 5 to 9. Rating: 5: Marginal, seriously flawed, but with some redeeming quality.

Subjects:

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[Poploff, Michelle.](#)



[Cocca-Leffler, Maryann, 1958-](#)

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