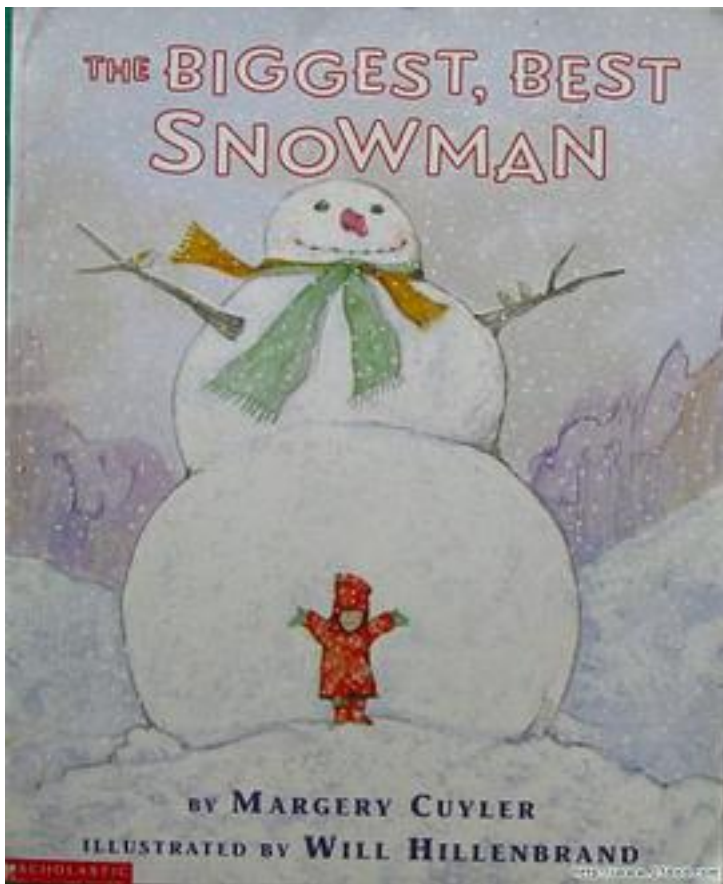


# The Biggest Best Snowman



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著者:Margery Cuyler

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From Publishers Weekly A little girl accomplishes big things in this winning picture book. \"Big Mama, Big Sarah, and Big Lizzie\" tell Little Nell she's too small to be of help, so Little Nell spends her days in the snow playing with her forest friends. When Reindeer, Hare and Bear Cub urge her to make a snowman, she thinks she's too small. But prodded by their encouraging words and offer of help, Little Nell

constructs a splendiferous snowman that makes her family realize she's not so small or helpless after all. As crisp and delicately patterned as a snowflake, Cuyler's (That's Good, That's Bad!) tale brims with rhyming words ("She carefully patted and matted and batted the snow into a tiny ball") and recurring phrases ("She rolled it and rolled it and rolled it to Reindeer") with which children will gleefully chime in. She explores larger themes such as a child's yearning to feel significant and the value of cooperation within the cozy context of family and friendship. Hillenbrand (Traveling to Tondo) matches the jaunty prose with puckish style. Readers will relish the transformation of Little Nell's mother and siblings—who first appear as fairy-tale wicked stepmother and stepsister types with their wildly sprouting hair—into compassionate gentlefolk (except Big Lizzie, who still says "Hmmmph!"). The artist makes the most of the snowy setting: eye-popping colors, from the cardinal perched upon the snowman's twiggy arm to Big Mama's bright fuschia overcoat, show up with perfect clarity against the tranquil, wintry backdrop. Frustrated youngsters will find a champion in Little Nell. Ages 4-7. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title. From School Library Journal PreSchool-Grade 2-A slight story with a few engaging winter scenes and a tiny girl who's happy to prove her worth. Little Nell lives with BIG Mama (who wears bunny slippers), BIG Sarah (who has Christmas ornaments dangling from her ears), and BIG Lizzie (who sports tricolored hair). When Little Nell asks if she can help, all three of them say, "No, you can't...You're too small." Disappointed, the child goes off to the "BIG snowy woods" to play with her friends, Reindeer, Hare, and Bear Cub. With their help, she makes the "biggest, best snowman that ever was" and then invites her astounded family to view it. The mixed-media paintings, done with oils, watercolors, and pencil, are filled with droll whimsy. The use of repetitive phrases and a large, clear typeface make the text relatively easy for beginning readers to follow. While not an essential purchase, this title might find a place in collections needing one more wintry picture book. Harriett Fargnoli, Great Neck Library, NY Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title. See all Editorial Reviews"

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