



The Chicken Doesn't Skate

By Gordon Korman

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What do a scientist, a screenwriter, and a hockey team all have in common?
A chicken!

Milo has a problem. He's trying to do a project on the food chain, so he charts the growth of a baby chick, and makes arrangements to serve his specimen to the judges at the science fair. But he's baffled by the rest of his class. They name the chick Henrietta. They sign up to take her home on weekends. They claim that she's a good luck charm, a friend, even the new hockey team mascot!

Milo just wants to win the science fair to impress his dad. But when the class finds out that Henrietta will be cooked and eaten for Milo's project, everyone panics!

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The Chicken Doesn't Skate By Gordon Korman Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #704000 in Books
- Brand: Scholastic Paperbacks
- Published on: 2011-03-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: .54" h x 5.34" w x 7.59" l, .34 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 224 pages

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 4-6-Prolific Korman once again successfully employs his tried-and-true formula: zany situations; a fast pace; likable, well-drawn characters; contemporary dialogue; and lots of humor. In this current offering, he combines several unlikely sixth-graders from Minnesota's South Middle School, including a hotshot hockey star; an animal-rights activist steeped in pop psychology; a computer nerd who writes slimy, bloody screenplays; and a young scientist trying to fit into a new school as well as impress his Nobel Prize-winning scientist father. When a chicken named Henrietta, the key component of Milo Neal's science-fair project on food chains, also becomes the hockey team's mascot and only chance at winning the championship, conflict ensues. Feelings escalate when the students realize that Milo's plan for completing the link in the chain actually involves fried chicken, and a series of highly improbable but very funny events occur. That computer nerd Zach, who has never been on the team, is discovered to be an awesome goalie is perhaps the biggest stretch of all, and yet perfect in the context of the book. Similarly, the resolution is neat, pat, and yet satisfying. Told from alternating first-person perspectives that nicely reveal lots about each character, the novel is sure to appeal to Korman's many fans who are willing to suspend disbelief for a rollicking story.

Connie Tyrrell Burns, Mahoney Middle School, South Portland, ME

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From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 4^-6. The South Middle School Rangers hockey team is in a serious slump until a wayward chicken named Henrietta, who belongs in a cage in Mrs. Baggio's science room, finds itself sitting on the Rangers' bench. A mascot is born. But Henrietta, the key ingredient in Milo Neal's science-fair project, "The Complete Life Cycle of a Link in the Food Chain," has a date with destiny. Milo plans to eat Henrietta on the floor of the science fair, thus completing his link in the food chain. Using alternating first-person narrators, Korman tells the hilarious story of how a group of kids with little in common--the hockey star, the class dweeb, the animal-rights activist--are thrown together in the hullabaloo over Henrietta's fate. Korman has the voices of these middle-school kids down cold; the silly chicken humor works because the kids' reactions--their 12-year-old cynicism, their pubescent ruthlessness, their oh-so-carefully-hidden vulnerability--are as real as the main plot is outrageous. This is a genuinely funny, refreshingly unpretentious novel. *Bill Ott*

Review

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Users Review

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Rebecca Morales:

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Darla Kemp:

What is your hobby? Have you heard in which question when you got college students? We believe that that problem was given by teacher on their students. Many kinds of hobby, Everybody has different hobby. And also you know that little person including reading or as reading through become their hobby. You must know that reading is very important in addition to book as to be the factor. Book is important thing to increase you knowledge, except your own personal teacher or lecturer. You see good news or update about something by book. Amount types of books that can you decide to try be your object. One of them is actually The Chicken Doesn't Skate.

Nelson McNamee:

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