



Chicken Big

By Keith Graves

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On a teeny little farm, in an itty-bitty coop, a very small hen laid a big, giant egg. And out of this egg came one big, humongous . . . something. No matter how they try, these clueless chickens can't make sense of the gigantic new member of their family—until he saves the day. With wacky, laugh-out-loud humor and silliness to spare, this BIG twist on the classic *Chicken Little* story lends a whole new perspective to what it means to be chicken.

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Chicken Big By Keith Graves Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

PreS-Gr 2—The pint-size poultry are as brainless as ever in this quirky revision of the classic “Chicken Little” tale, but the hero here is mysterious Chicken Big. Is he an elephant? The smaller chickens are sure that he could not be one of them and exclude him from the coop. When an acorn falls on the smallest one's head, she thinks the sky is falling. But when clear-headed Chicken Big explains what it is and pops it into his mouth, the other chickens decide that he must really be a squirrel. Chicken Big's unwilling companions arrive at one ridiculous conclusion after another. He protects them from the rain, so he could be an umbrella. He keeps them warm in a cold breeze, so he could be a sweater. When all the eggs go missing and Chicken Big saves the day, the others realize that “only one thing could be so smart, so kind, so warm, and so brave.” (A chicken, of course.) Graves's pastel-hued illustrations with comic-style panels have a spontaneous and quirky quality reminiscent of Mo Willems's Pigeon and Leonardo books, and thoughtful design plays up the disproportionate size of Chicken Big. An amusing tale that will draw giggles from preschool and early elementary read-aloud audiences, this is a fun addition to any collection or comparative folklore unit. *Jayne Damron, Farmington Community Library, MI*

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From [Booklist](#)

In a sort of mash-up of “Chicken Little” and “Blind Men and the Elephant,” henhouse residents are set aflutter by the arrival of an enormous new hatchling. What is it? An elephant, opines the smallest chicken. But when that same hen (“not the sharpest beak in the flock”) is hit in succession by an acorn (“The sky is falling!”), a drop of rain (“The sky is leaking!”), and a cold breeze (“Someone has put the world in the refrigerator! We’re all going to freeze!”), the monster provides both common sense and protective bulk—and in return is identified as a squirrel, then an umbrella, then a sweater. Graves illustrates this crowd-pleaser with simple cartoon scenes in which the new chick looms hugely, rolling its eyes at the antics of a quartet of scraggly, pop-eyed, appropriately silly-looking poultry. In a satisfying resolution, the chick dashes off heroically to rescue a clutch of stolen eggs from a marauding fox, earning proper recognition, acceptance—and, most likely, loud requests for repeat readings from delighted audiences. Grades 1-3. --John Peters

About the Author

Keith Graves is the author and illustrator of numerous books for children, including *Frank Was a Monster Who Wanted to Dance*. He lives in Austin, Texas, with his family.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Nancy Lord:

Do you have favorite book? If you have, what is your favorite's book? Publication is very important thing for us to know everything in the world. Each book has different aim or goal; it means that book has different type. Some people feel enjoy to spend their the perfect time to read a book. They can be reading whatever they consider because their hobby is definitely reading a book. How about the person who don't like studying a book? Sometime, particular person feel need book whenever they found difficult problem as well as

exercise. Well, probably you'll have this Chicken Big.

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Theodore Huff:

Exactly why? Because this Chicken Big is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap the idea but latter it will shock you with the secret the idea inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who also write the book in such awesome way makes the content inside of easier to understand, entertaining approach but still convey the meaning entirely. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This amazing book will give you a lot of advantages than the other book possess such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking method. So , still want to hold up having that book? If I ended up you I will go to the book store hurriedly.

Vera Harris:

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