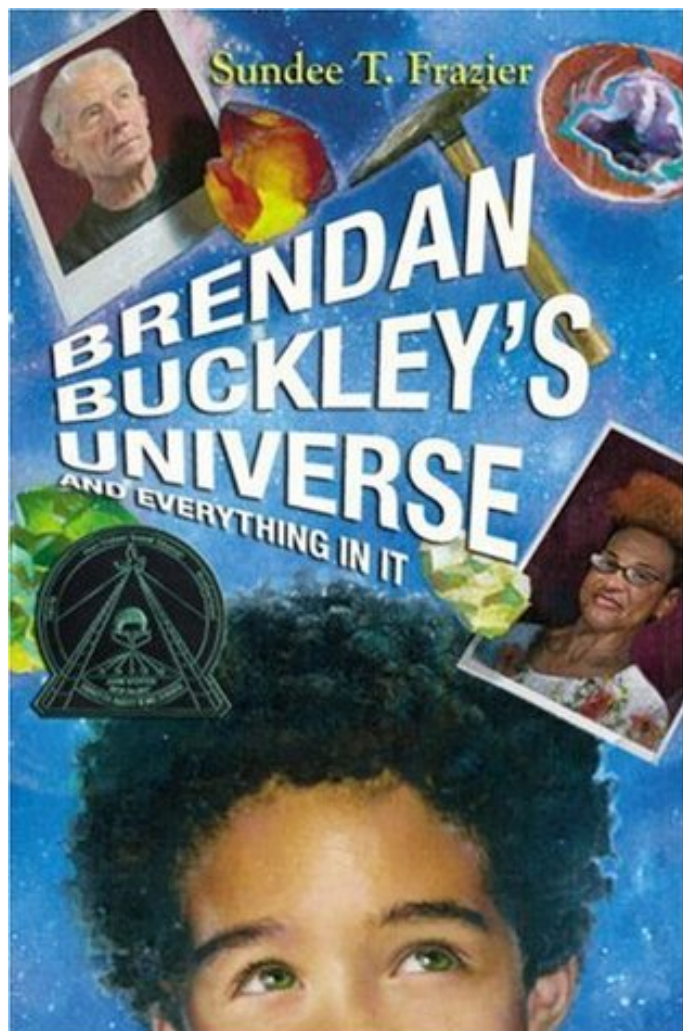

Sundee T. Frazier

Brendan Buckley's Universe and Everything in It



Title: Brendan Buckley's Universe and Everything in It

Author: Sundee T. Frazier

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Description

Ten-year-old Tae Kwon Do blue belt and budding rock hound Brendan Buckley keeps a "Confidential" notebook for his top-secret scientific discoveries. And he's found something totally top secret. The grandpa he's never met, who his mom refuses to talk about or see, is an expert mineral collector and lives nearby! Secretly, Brendan visits Ed DeBose, whose skin is pink, not brown like Brendan's, his dad's, or that of Grampa Clem's, who recently died. Brendan sets out to find the reason behind Ed's absence, but what he discovers can't be explained by science, and now he wishes he'd never found him at all. . . .

Insightful reviews

Amy Lindsay: Brendan, according to his gram is "chocolate milk"---chocolate from his dad and milk from his mom. He's a good kid with a good stable family. One day when he's walking around the mall with his gram he sees this old man at a table full of rocks. He strikes up a conversation but when his gram happens up on them she goes bezerk. Turns out the old man is his grandfather, his mom's father, who he's never met. His other grandpa recently passed away and so Bren is determined to learn more about his grandpa and to find out why they've never met.

Strong writing. Nice amount of allusions to things like the internet and video games---makes the setting and story more real, but not over the top. Just part of the story.

The only thing I didn't love was the ending. A little bit too After School Special-ish for my tastes, but those were my tastes as an 11 year old, so there ya go.

Beth Ann: This is a GREAT kids book. It deals with big stuff; racial identity, racism, and a lifelong love of learning; but does so in a gentle and humorous way so it feels perfectly age appropriate and with an inspirational theme without being the least bit preachy. Verify very cute story.

Melissa Bell:

My daughter and I were excited to read this book after reading the blurb on the back of the book. A rock hound. A MIA grandpa. Very quickly we were disappointed in this story. My daughter felt the story was slow. I felt that not only was there not enough about the mystery of Brendan's grandpa, but the content about race was too in your face and almost unnecessary. A great story could have been had without the incident in the park, without the questions on why some white people do not like black people, or some of Gladys's comments. We would not have finished this book if it was not a Bluestem book nominee (Illinois book award).

Erin Sterling: Brendan is a ten 0.5 12 months previous who's thinking about the universe and every little thing in it and loves asking questions in a pc and utilizing technological know-how to determine the answer, like "what is dust?", "how do they get the ripple in fudge ripple ice cream?" and "What am I? Black? Biracial? Am I white, too?" while Brendan discovers that

grandpa is alive and lives shut by, he wonders why they have by no means met. the tale is compelling (a boy's connection to a grandpa amidst the context of racial identification formation), yet what i admire is how precise to lifestyles the nature feels. and i am so excited i'll meet the writer for the reason that she's coming to our conference!! :)

Jackie: Brendan Buckley is a geologist within the making...he loves rocks, minerals, and the earth. Little does he know, however, that a part of his love for the technology comes from his grandpa, Ed (his mom's dad). Brendan hasn't ever met Ed and does not recognize whatever approximately him. whilst Grandma Gladys (his dad's mom) takes him to the mall one summer season day, he unearths a rock convey and talks to the fellow on the counter. Instantly, they either understand they've got a fondness and fascination with minerals. But, while Gladys sees who Brendan is conversing to, she rushes him out of the mall. Brendan is confused. Luckily, Brendan has a pamphlet from the express with the man's identify on it. Wait a minute! that's his mom's maiden name! Brendan tracks the fellow down and reveals out that, indeed, Ed DeBose, is his grandfather, his white grandfather. Brendan's dad is black, his mother is white. Brendan's grandpa Ed disowned his mother whilst she married his dad. he's stressed and does not comprehend why. the 2 meet secretly and locate their shared curiosity is worthy development a dating on. that's until eventually his mother reveals out and every thing is ruined. Will Brendan be able to convey his mother and grandpa jointly again? Can prior wrongs be righted? Brendan Buckley's Universe and every thing in it portrays prejudice because it rightly is...ugly. but if that prejudice is aimed toward a blood relative is turns into greater than ugly, it turns into unconscionable. This e-book wraps up a bit too neatly, yet nonetheless, offers a few foodstuff for idea for a tender reader.

Margaret: 5/2/11 ** This was once a tender Hoosier Nominee for 2010-2011; earlier than I again all of the nominees to the library, there have been a number of I nonetheless desired to read. i feel this has to move onto my wishlist of books to own. I completely loved Brendan's character. His inner discussion in the course of his quest to appreciate the area round him retains the e-book lighthearted, whereas additionally occasionally poignant. Brendan is a self-described scientist - asking questions, searching for answers, and suffering to opposed to the data constraints imposed via his parents. he is additionally concerned with Tae Kwon Do and always seeks to use the precepts of that self-discipline to his day-by-day life. Finally, he is biracial. as much as this point, his existence has been relatively sheltered, and he hasn't needed to contemplate how race shapes who he is. Over the process the ebook he has numerous encounters which deliver the query of race into stark relief. so much importantly, he discovers that there's a looming kin mystery round the query of an absent grandfather. This ebook may make a good read-aloud for the courageous soul who does not brain a technology scan concerning the measurement of a 10-year-old boy's bladder (hold it endlessly and pee right into a 2 liter bottle!) this is able to even be a compelling e-book for any baby who isn't really really convinced how she or he suits into different types outlined through others.

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