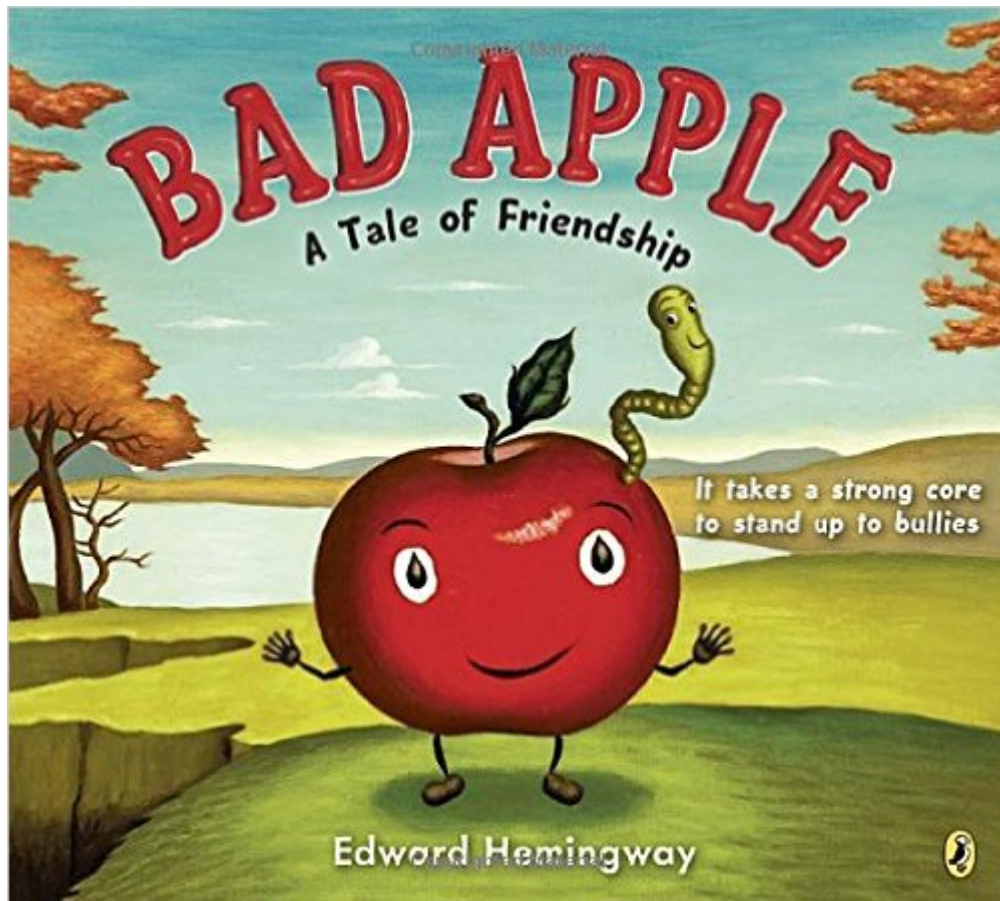


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# Bad Apple: A Tale Of Friendship



## Synopsis

It takes a firm apple to stand up to bullies. When Mac, an apple, meets Will, a worm, they become fast friends, teaching each other games and even finishing each other's sentences. But apples aren't supposed to like worms, and Mac gets called "rotten" and "bad apple." At first, Mac doesn't know what to do "it's never easy standing up to bullies--but after a lonely day without Will, Mac decides he'd rather be a bad apple with Will than a sad apple without. "Charming . . . Social norms force Mac and Will apart; surprisingly effective, fruit-related pathos ensues before the two friends decide to buck convention and like whom they like. Who cares what anyone thinks?" "The New York Times

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0560 (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books (September 1, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0147517486

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Product Dimensions: 10 x 0.1 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars See all reviews (32 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #5,467 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #24 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Bullies #112 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Emotions & Feelings #217 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Friendship

Age Range: 3 - 5 years

Grade Level: Preschool - Kindergarten

## Customer Reviews

We just got Bad Apple from today and the unanimous declaration is that it's awesome! This is from my six year old son, to my wife and myself. Great work, good story, and really nice illustrations. I love the play on words with the different varieties of apples (Granny-Smith as real grandma is perfect) including some grumpy crab-apples. The story-line of meeting unlikely friends and defying labels is of course relevant to any age. The aspect of the "properness" of an apple befriending a

worm might best be compared to having a little rat being a genius French chef like in Pixar's film "Ratatouille". It's absurd of course, but it's also the whole point: beauty, love and inspiration can be found in the most unlikely of places. We have only to be open to it. In any case, the reader or reviewer who over-thinks the scenario and posits that there really IS something wrong with an apple befriending a little worm obviously stopped believing in the magic of childhood a long time ago.

I simply cannot say enough good things about *Bad Apple, A Tale of Friendship*, written by the oh-so-talented Edward Hemingway. Hemingway is a rare children's book author, in that his wit and talent really take his work to levels not seen in children's books for many years. The story is a wonderful lesson for young readers and sets a good tone for a beginning talk about tolerance, bullying, and accepting our friends for who they are. Mac (the apple--such a clever name!) and Will are delightful characters that really come to life. You care about these characters and while I was reading, I could imagine this story and the characters on film. Finally, I have to say something about the breathtaking artwork of this book. These are not quick drawings--the artwork is done in oils and the richness and depth come shining through. When I opened the book, I literally went, "Ahhhhhhh!" I have absolutely NEVER seen such amazing artwork in a children's book--and there are such wonderful little surprises in the art. Hemingway is not only a fantastic illustrator, his clever wit adds even more dimension. I teach early childhood development and this book hits all the marks for great children's literature. In fact, I loved this book so much that I have already ordered copies of this book for this year's new literature in my university's child development labs. I know children--and they are going to love this book! Edward Hemingway is a talent we should all keep our eye on. It's fabulous (and rare) when you see this kind of amazing talent bloom. It's a completely joy from cover to cover.

Wow. How many children's books deal with the complex issue of being bullied for who you like? I can't think of any and yet this is one of the most common weapons that bullies use. Bravo for handling the issue with kind spirit and humor. While bullying is part of the book, *Bad Apple* is really about friendship and what it's worth to us. In a word, everything. My son read it and seems to really understand now that he's allowed to like anyone he wants to like as long as they treat him with respect. His cousin also read the book to himself one morning while visiting. He closed the book and whispered to himself "I love this book". He didn't know I heard him. A beautiful concept, beautifully done.

We just recently received our copy of *Bad Apple* from . All four of us read it together: from ages 78

down to 9 years old. It conveyed just exactly the message we enjoyed. The little worm wiggling his way into the heart of a juicy red apple. such a good moral and sweet story of friendship, despite the agenda of other onlookers. Sometimes the most unlikely sources provide the most delightful outcomes in our lives. Everyone of us enjoyed the clarity of illustration and the well-worded story. It made a lovely and lively discussion as our grandchildren snuggled into bed. Thank you, Edward Hemingway, for a beautiful book that we will treasure in our home.

What a delightful book! Edward Hemingway attacks the pack mentality that so governs our society as a whole today. Bad Apple celebrates individuality and the glory of choice that our prepackaged culture denies people. I bought this book for every member of our family including my twenty-something nephews. He touches our obsession with appearances and group approval being pounded into the fabric of our culture by the rash of shallow reality shows on television. Bad Apple is a throw back to the golden rules of yesteryear: be kind, stay true to yourself and loyalty make the person, or in this case, the apple!

I bought this book for a friend's 3-year-old child and my daughter (7) enjoyed it so much we had to buy another copy for our home. There are so many reasons this is a great book: the beautiful and vivid color illustrations, the soulful tale of friendship, the sweet and unforgettable characters. At an age when what friends have and do and wear seems so important, my daughter really seemed to appreciate the message that friendship transcends difference and even benefits from it: she got it! Thanks Bad Apple!!!!!! I plan to buy this book for my young and not-so-young friends. It's a keeper.

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