Little Horse by Betsy Byars

Great Book

Can Little Horse find his place in the big world?

After accidentally falling into a stream, Little Horse fights the swift current that carries him farther and farther from the valley where he was born.

When he finally manages to scramble ashore, a giant bird swoops down on him. Little Horse runs for cover in a forest of flowers only to have a giant paw pin him to the ground. But a hand gently lifts him up and tucks him inside a warm cave—just like the cave he used to share with his mother.

This tender, fast-moving tale, written by master storyteller Betsy Byars and enhanced by David McPhail's beguiling illustrations, is a true cliff-hanger.

My Personal Review:
REVIEWED BY: Wayne Walker

When I first read Little Horse on His Own, which has been reviewed in a previous edition of Stories for Children, I did not know that it was a sequel until I did some research for writing the review. While in the library not long ago, I found the original. Like its sequel, Little Horse is an early chapter book and tells the story of how Little Horse, who lives in a valley with other little horses, accidentally falls into a stream that carries him away from his home. He first lands on an island where a giant hawk swoops down on him. Heading back into the water, he reaches land again and finds himself in a forest, but instead of the little trees with which he is familiar in his home valley, it is a forest of colorful flowers. Frightened by a dog, he tries to flee but is picked up by a hand which tucks him inside the dark, warm pocket of a pair of overalls and takes him to a farm where there
are other horses, but they are giants compared to him. His new home is a
toy stall in a little boy's room. However, he is already dreaming about his
journey back to his home. This is obviously a quasi-fantasy book, but
small children, who have to live in a society where so much is made for
larger adults, should be able to identify with Little Horse's predicament of
finding himself in a world where everything is huge.

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