



# Riley Can't Stop Crying by Stéphanie Boulay

Orca Book Publishers, 2021 9781459826380, Hardcover \*6-8: (Suggested by Publisher) Grade Range: 6-8

#### **BOOK SYNOPSIS**

Riley is inconsolable. He can't stop crying and nothing is making him feel better. His sister, Regina, tries her best to help him figure out what's wrong, but four-year-old Riley isn't sure. It's not his tummy, or his head, or the monsters under the bed. Regina and their dad try everything they can to make Riley smile, but nothing works until one day Regina has an idea. Maybe it's *Riley* that is making Riley upset.

Regina knows what it feels like to be uncomfortable in her body, but she also knows that she's pretty amazing and really good at a lot of things. So how can she help Riley see that he's pretty amazing and really good at a lot of things? A charming story about a child's search for his true self under the compassionate eye of his older sister.

### **REVIEWS AND PRAISE**

- ★ "Insightfully emotional...A poignant, purposeful depiction of a family learning to recognize, confront, and heal internal struggles with self-love and self-worth. Children in need of encouragement will find comforting revelations about the value of individuality."—School Library Journal, starred review
- ★ "Boulay brings immense tenderness to both [Regina] and Riley's journeys of discovery...Bray-Bourret's quirky illustrations offer energy and lightness that balance the serious subject matter of gender identity...This picture book shows how we can give young children the freedom to be themselves."—Quill & Quire, starred review

"A kind message."—Kirkus Reviews

"This is a book that perfectly captures in both words and pictures the struggle so many young children face to be themselves."—The Globe & Mail

"Gentle-hued watercolor and gouache illustrations by Bray-Bourret...[create] a comedic effect...Boulay and Simard accessibly interrogate identity."—Publishers Weekly

#### **AWARDS AND ACCOLADES**

- BC Books for BC Schools | 2021 | Commended
- Ontario Library association (OLA) Best Bets Honourable Mention | 2022 | Commended

## **AUTHOR STATEMENT (OPTIONAL)**

Offer the author an opportunity to provide a statement about the potential impact of banning their book or a link to an existing author statement.

## \*A NOTE ON AGE RANGES

A publisher-suggested age range covers the gamut of readers that publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate age range for the diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.