

★ **Jump for Joy****Karen Gray Ruelle****Hadley Hooper, Illustrator**

Astra Young Readers (Jan 23, 2024)

Hardcover (32pp)

978-1-66260-202-3

Joy has always wanted a dog; Jump has always wanted a kid. As they wait for the right companion, they make substitutes out of flowers, ferns, sand, and snow, but their formed friends never last. The book utilizes white space and stark black-and-white illustrations to evoke Jump and Joy's loneliness; the characters are in a different illustration style, further emphasizing their isolation. Only when the pair find each other do their worlds fill with color.

DANIELLE BALLANTYNE (January / February 2024)

Disclosure: This article is not an endorsement, but a review. The publisher of this book provided free copies of the book to have their book reviewed by a professional reviewer. No fee was paid by the publisher for this review. Foreword Reviews only recommends books that we love. Foreword Magazine, Inc. is disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255.