

★ **Marcel with a Splash****Julia Sørensen****Shelley Tanaka, Translator**

Groundwood Books (Feb 4, 2025)

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Inspired by Julia Sørensen's experiences as the mother of a child with Down syndrome, this heartfelt picture book addresses the difficulties and celebrates the joys of raising children with special needs. Marcel's parents are both "sad and happy" about his diagnosis, but Marcel doesn't know any different; "he eats, he sleeps, he smiles" just like any other child. Meeting an adult with Down syndrome helps Marcel and his parents understand and embrace his differences.

DANIELLE BALLANTYNE (January / February 2025)

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