

Foreword Review PICTURE BOOKS



The Brothers Zzli

Alex Cousseau Anne-Lise Boutin, Illustrator Vineet Lal, Translator Eerdmans Books for Young Readers (Oct 24, 2023) Hardcover \$17.99 (40pp) 978-0-8028-5609-8

The fraught journeys of refugees—both along the way and long after arrival—are revealed through a girl and three bears in this touching picture book. At the suggestion of her bat friend, a girl takes in three traveling bears, the brothers Zzli. The other animals in the forest, however, are not as welcoming; a visit from a police officer precedes an act of arson that sets the found family adrift again. Glowing primary colors illuminate this story that ends with hope—despite all odds.

DANIELLE BALLANTYNE (November / December 2023)

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