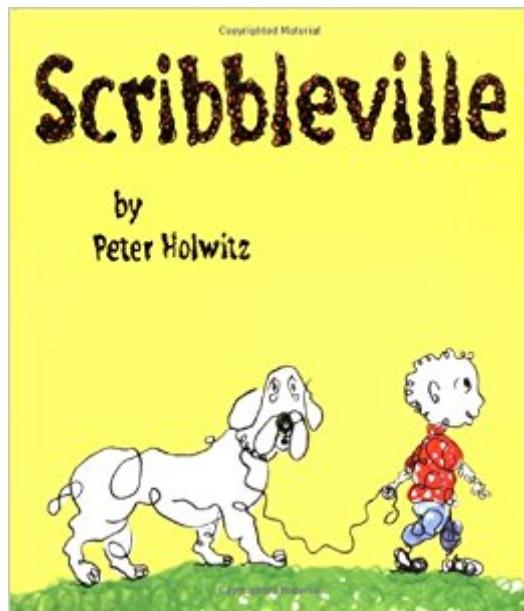


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# Scribbleville



## **Synopsis**

Welcome to Scribbleville, where everything is made entirely of wiggles, squiggles, and scribbles. Straight lines are nowhere to be found, and the people of Scribbleville like it that way! Until the day an odd-looking stranger arrives . . . He is as straight as a stick. He builds a square house with a pointed roof. Wherever he goes, people stare and think: Someone should tell him he doesn't belong! And perhaps he doesn't. Until one child looks beyond the edges and sees what others cannot. Peter Holwitz's simple fable and childlike illustrations speak equally to children and adults about the beauty inherent in differences. Share it with that special scribbler in your life.

## **Book Information**

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Philomel (June 16, 2005)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 8.8 x 0.3 x 9.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 8 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,001,023 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #99 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Tolerance #1195 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Prejudice & Racism #3052 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > New Experiences

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## **Customer Reviews**

Kindergarten-Grade 2 "Everything" and everyone in Scribbleville is made out of curving, squiggled lines. When a man who is straight as a stick moves in, the residents are mistrustful because he looks all wrong. After a scribbled woman befriends him, she is harshly judged, and an angry mob gathers to protest the immigration of other straight individuals. Fortunately, a thoughtful child unites the townspeople by drawing a picture "Some of it scribbled,/and some of it straight. From this point on, relations between scribbles and straights are much improved, and soon some new folks move in "Some scribbled" some not. The whimsical stick-figure illustrations, done in

pencil, Magic Marker, and chalk on vellum, are the real attraction in this book. Holwitz maintains an elegant balance between order and chaos, achieving a highly stylized version of a child's scribble. The text, unfortunately, is not as well executed. The bouncy, rhymed couplets belie the seriousness of the theme, and the resolution is too pat. While youngsters sometimes do lead the way to the reconciliation of differences, the journey is seldom as smooth as the road to Scribbleville.â "Rachael Vilmar, Atlanta Fulton Public Library, GA Copyright Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Our favorite book ever; we had to get additional copies so each kid has their own for their children and donated one for the school library before we can't find them anymore (out of print, sadly). A straight man moves to a scribbled town and is met with suspicion and fear. Gradually they assimilate straight as the younger generation adapts to "mixed" marriage...just when everything's calmed down again a purple man moves to town...

AMAZING book!! It is out of print but one of the most delightful children's books I have ever read!

My 7 year old loves this story. It has an important message too, if you are into that sort of thing, but it's a nice story even ignoring the message.

Scribbleville is a pleasant little town where everyone and everything is scribbled. The people have scribbled houses, scribbled pets and they walk with wiggles. There is not a single straight line in Scribbleville. One day, a stranger moves into town and Scribbleville is never the same. The newcomer is straight, not scribbled, and drives a big yellow truck that is as straight as a stick. The man builds a perfectly straight house with a white picket fence around the yard. The people in Scribbleville are shocked and upset. Wherever he went, the people would stare. "Look at his clothes." "Who cuts his hair?" "He doesn't fit in. He looks all wrong. Should someone tell him he doesn't belong?" The Scribblers shun the newcomer with the straight house and the straight picket fence. Then a woman walks up to the straight man's fence and begins to talk to him. She has a big scribbled smile and a red scribbled dress. They soon become friends. The folks in Scribbleville are furious. "I admit", she said, as herscribbled head shook. "on the outside he's odd, but that's not where I look." Children are often the first to accept changes. A youngster in school draws a picture that is part scribble and part straight. A teacher wears a straight tie around his scribbled neck. Soon the kids begin to wear straight lines too. It's tough to say - to pick one day. Things never change

overnight. But before too long, what once felt wrong, Started to feel a bit right. The stranger isn't strange anymore. He marries the woman in the red scribbled dress. They have two kids...one is scribbled and one is not. Now, Scribbleville is a town where everyone fits in. I really like this book. It deals with prejudice, racism, change, acceptance, tolerance and friendship. These are all social issues that children must deal with on a daily basis. This book is written in rhyme and reminds me of the way Dr. Seuss would deal with social issues in a light-hearted manner. The scribbled illustrations are excellent and children should be encouraged to create their own scribbled drawings. These illustrations really make this book unique and wonderful. Scribbleville is about accepting other people who are different than the majority. They might be a different race, have a disability or speak with a foreign accent. The world would be a better place if every town would follow the example of Scribbleville. I highly recommend this book for children of all ages.

Have you ever felt like you don't belong? Try being the only straight person in Scribbleville, where everyone is squiggly! This is exactly what the "new stranger" encounters when he moves to Scribbleville until a scribbled woman looks past his straight lines to become his friend. She illuminates the straight-lined Scribbleville people: "on the outside he's odd, but that's not where I look." Scribbleville is somewhat fantastical but the creative scribbles and purposefully placed color bring the story to life and speak to all aged children alike advocating embracing differences. The rhymed verse sometimes has an awkward rhythm, but will entertain and delight elementary schoolers. The next time you're looking for a well-versed story with a positive social illustration intertwined, share Scribbleville!

This is a great book with wonderful, interesting illustrations that will keep young ones looking at the pictures; rhymes that are interesting for parents to read over and over again without wanting to tear your hair out; and a great thinly veiled message about tolerance and diversity without being preachy. Little kids probably won't get it right off, but will probably sink in if, like me, it becomes part of the bedtime routine and it's requested every night. I love this book!

The rhythm isn't PERFECT, but it is a fun-to-read, fun-to-look-at story with a positive message that is clearly conveyed. In a world where so many people judge others by looking different (or having disabilities), this book is a fun story that shows how beautiful life is when we welcome each other and eventually become a bit like each other.

Such JOY to read a book with adorable illustrations, fantastic rhymes, and a heartwarming story. As with Holwitz's other books, this is wonderful.

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