REATHER VOCEL FREDERICK

Absolutely Truly by Heather Vogel Frederick

Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.



Read Aloud Video

What's It About?

Now that Truly Lovejoy's father has been injured by an IED in Afghanistan and is having trouble finding work back home, the family moves from Texas to tiny Pumpkin Falls, New Hampshire, to take over Lovejoy's Books, a struggling bookstore that's been in the family for one hundred years.

With two older brothers and two younger sisters clamoring for attention, her mother back in school, and everyone up to their eyebrows trying to keep Lovejoy's Books afloat, Truly feels more overlooked than usual. So she pours herself into uncovering the mystery of an undelivered letter she finds stuck in a valuable autographed first edition of Charlotte's Web, which subsequently goes missing from the bookshop. What's inside the envelope leads Truly and her new Pumpkin Falls friends on a madcap treasure hunt around town, chasing clues that could spell danger.

AR Reading Level: 5.4

Who Wrote It?

Before Heather became a writer, She was a reader—and still is. She was born in Peterborough, New Hampshire, into a family of bookworms, and spent most of her childhood holed up in the library or in my bedroom, reading. Her father was a teacher and principal and read to her and her sisters a lot. Her favorite part was when he acted the stories out and did fabulous voices. Heather always loved writing and did a lot of it as a child. After college, she wrote for a lot of newspapers and print publications including The New York Times, Publisher's Weekly, The Christian Science Monitor and Family Life. Heather's first novel. The Voyage of Patience Goodspeed, was published in 2002, and she has been writing books ever since. Today, after spending more than 20 happy years in the Pacific Northwest and close to another decade in Boston, she and her husband have embarked on a new adventure, living in Europe. Portugal, to be exact! They love their



little medieval city, with its castle ruins and charming gardens and weekly open-air market. Our city apartment may not look like that English cottage of her childhood, but it's peaceful and full of light — just right for a writer!

Lexile Level: 790L

I want to read this book: YES / NO

 $\Leftrightarrow \Leftrightarrow \mathsf{WHAT} \mathsf{I} \mathsf{THINK} \Leftrightarrow \mathsf{S}$



*

