

Billy And Ant Fall Out: Pride (Billy Growing Up) By James Minter Although the main character Billy and his friends are fictitious Billy's dog Jacko is based on his family's much loved pet which with their second dog Malibu caused havoc and mayhem to the delight of his children and consternation of himself. Currently in addition to the Billy Books series of books and campaigning for children's values James is writing book III of the Hole Trilogy Marmite Makes a Sandwich Dynamite Makes a Hole. Is Billy the sort of person to have as a friend? Will it be possible for Billy and Ant to be mates again? Can they overcome their differences? Billy And Ant Fall Out is the second title in the Billy Books series. - Bear Grylls English Part of the 'Billy' series for upper primary students each with a useful life lesson to teach in the context of a 10 year old boy's life his family school friends and hobbies. In this second book Billy is developing an interest in skateboarding and because he's older than his friend Ant (who isn't 10 for a few more months) he starts acting superior and the two fall out. As he's about to apologise he sees Ant with a 'new' best friend and in a fit of wounded pride tries to make friends with older boys by saying he might steal some skateboard parts in order to earn his own board. Not being the target age market I am still unsure if the characters' language is modelled well on how children speak to each other I'd want to see readers' opinions on that: for me it's not always a realistic portrayal of how young people talk to each other. I always like seeing the notes at the end by the author and think this would be very useful in a classroom context with KS2 students aged around 9-11 to form the basis for PSHE discussions. His pride for his new found importance and age leads him to throw it in his best friend Ant's face when he complains about the bad circulation in his hands and feet making him cold. Can Billy overcome his pride and apologize to Ant before it's too late? The Characters Billy is more of the bad boy because he is a little bit older and suffers from his own inflated ego over his age (10). I think a lot of young kids will relate to his character and hopefully they see how Billy makes it right in the end and will be inspired to make good decisions from the get-go. As an adult I wonder why Ant or Billy would ever trust Stu after their experiences with him and the gang of bullies he belongs to but as a kid I can see how they'd want to believe the best in their peers and older kids. (It was especially fun and interesting to me right now since I'm writing a British character in my book Dead Soil) Europeans and Americans alike will enjoy and understand what the boys are saying:

James is a dad to two grown up children and a step father to three : His fiction writing career started some nine years ago with books designed to appeal to the inner child in all of us very English humour: Later his daughter Louise reminded him of the bedtime stories he told her and suggested he might like to commit them to paper for others to enjoy: He hasn't yet but instead embarked on writing the eight book Billy Books series for 7 to 9 year old girls and boys, These are traditional stories featuring negative behaviours but with positive outcomes. His fiction writing career started some nine years ago with books designed to appeal to the inner child in all of us very English humour. Later his daughter Louise reminded him of the bedtime stories he told her and suggested he might like to commit them to paper for others to enjoy, He hasn't yet but instead embarked on writing the eight book Billy Books series for 7 to 9 year old girls and boys: These are traditional stories featuring negative behaviours but with positive outcomes, Before he started writing James spent his working life as a college lecturer and later in the computer industry: It was at a time before the invention of smartphones and tablets when computers were powered by steam and stood as high as a bus, The Hole Opportunity was the first product of his imagination for the inner child. The Unexpected Consequences of Iron Overload followed a year later, A paranormal romantic spoof thriller written to raise awareness of a genetic medical condition called Haemochromatosis: Book II of the Hole Trilogy A Tunnel is Only a Hole on its Side came next, False pride makes a child feel so important that they would rather do something wrong than admit they have made a mistake, Could pride be playing a part in your child's negative behaviour? Billy Field says something nasty to his best friend Ant Turner and they row, Ant goes off and makes a new friend leaving Billy feeling angry

and abandoned: Billy's pride will not let him apologise to Ant until things get out of hand, Each book addresses a unique topic--bullying arrogant pride jealousy lying stealing lack of self-belief understanding money and secrets. Written to help parents guardians and teachers deal with the issues that challenge pre-teen children; each topic is presented in a gentle way through storytelling. Setting the issues in a meaningful context helps children to understand the challenges and to see things from a different perspective. The books act as icebreakers allowing for discussions of difficult subjects: Additionally each title is supported by a free activity book to reinforce the learning while having fun, Buying this book today will support your child in dealing with false or arrogant pride--a negative and unhelpful emotion. Billy And Ant Fall Out: Pride (Billy Growing Up)I have a son and a daughter and this book is a great reader for younger children. There are colourful illustrations through out the book that make it a nice read for younger readers, The book is also relatively short and nicely broken up which suits bed-time story-reading: I particularly liked the chapter about Billy stealing a bike. There are also some nice teaching moments in the book like A man's pride can be his downfall and he needs to learn when to turn to others for support and guidance, I read this via Audible on audiobook and found the story worked well in this format listening along, I had found with the two others in the series I'd read that they were slightly hard to read aloud quite wordy and my six year old wasn't too interested, It's definitely a little old for him but I enjoyed this volume the lesson and the way it was taught, The bully from the first book returns as do the good role models in Billy's parents and Granddad who help him learn lessons about pride and friendship: But the friendship between Billy and Ant is well-drawn and the problems described here are fairly common ones that children have to contend with: While the narrator (Lola-Rose Maxwell) reads the characters clearly and well I wasn't sure why a female voice had been chosen when every character (bar Billy's mum) is male. Though she reads it well with distinct voices for each character. English Billy and Ant Fall OutbyJames MinterThis is the second book in a children's chapter book series called Life Lessons: If you want to find a fun way to teach your kids an important moral lesson these books are for you! This particular book is about pride, The StoryBilly is the older of the two boys and now that he's ten instead of nine he is feeling more like a big kid instead of a baby: The two part ways due to the argument and find new friends to play with. While Ant makes a good friend who wants to come over and play video games Billy falls into a bad crowd who encourages him to steal for them. When he meets the older boys he's easily impressionable desperate to make cooler friends than Ant has in their time apart. Ant seems more innocent sweet and an all around good boy. He's my favorite out of the two because he seems more inclined to do the right thing from the start: I too don't feel he should apologize to Billy because he didn't do anything wrong: Dan and Woody are the brother duo that befriend Billy outside a skateboard shop, They are older than him and are clearly taking advantage of how young and unknowing he is. They teach him a few moves on the skateboard and then ask him to steal parts for their own board promising to give him a used board in exchange. Even though they're not the worst kids in the book I don't think they're all that good either: He puts his anger towards Billy aside in order to use him to get back at Ant for getting his best friend in trouble in the first book in the series, She isn't in the story much this time but as before she is extremely fun charming and a delight She lightens the book's looming moral lesson, The author is from the UK and the language reflects that but not in any way that's confusing. It was fun to see how another culture would word something than I would, I think from the main characters alone that boys might like the stories better but I think young girls will love Max too, I gave Billy and Ant Fall Out by James Minter a four and a half stars out of five on Amazon and Goodreads: English In this great children's book the young reader discovers the importance of cherishing friendships building relationships and importantly pride: The author begins by defining two aspects of pride which will be very useful for parents and teachers, During a discussion about a bike ride Billy is unpleasant and rude to his friend Ant who is understandably hurt and walks away: After a while Billy regrets his unkind words but finds that Ant has made a new friend: Confused and lonely Billy has to face the consequences of his actions, He befriends some other boys and things don't go well for Billy, He's forced into some unsavoury life choices which forces him to reflect on how he originally behaved

towards Ant and the friendship he lost, I found the language and in particular the dialogue convincing: It's never easy for an adult to write conversations that children can identify with by Mr Minter does an exceptional job. As well the plot moves along at a cracking pace which will keep young readers focused and captivated until its end. The illustrations are very good and add to the overall portrayal of the story: This book offers young readers an important lesson which they must face at some stage of their lives. Friendships are extremely important for children but keeping them can mean we have to learn how to behave: I think this book should be added to every bookshelf in every home and classroom. Its subject is an important one that should be discussed by parents teachers and children, Mr Minter should be congratulated for creating what seems to be a normal children's book on the surface but underneath offers so much more. Websites: {site\_link} [www.thebillybooks.co.uk](http://www.thebillybooks.co.uk) {site\_link} [www.jamesminter.com](http://www.jamesminter.com) E-mail: [james@jamesminter.com](mailto:james@jamesminter.com) Twitter: @james\_minter Facebook: {site\_link} [facebook.com/billygrowingup/](https://facebook.com/billygrowingup/) {site\_link} [facebook.com/author.james.minter](https://facebook.com/author.james.minter) {site\_link} For 7 to 9 year old boys and girls. I would have thought a male voice more generally applicable. With thanks to the author for the sample reading copy. He's kind of mean to his friend because of it. Ant is Billy's best friend. He's nine and a half and a big brother. Stu is an older bully. Max is Ant's younger sister. The Writing This book was virtually flawless. If there were any mistakes at all I didn't see them. I personally liked the change-up in language. It's perfect for the age group it targets. This book is easy to follow and well written. English

