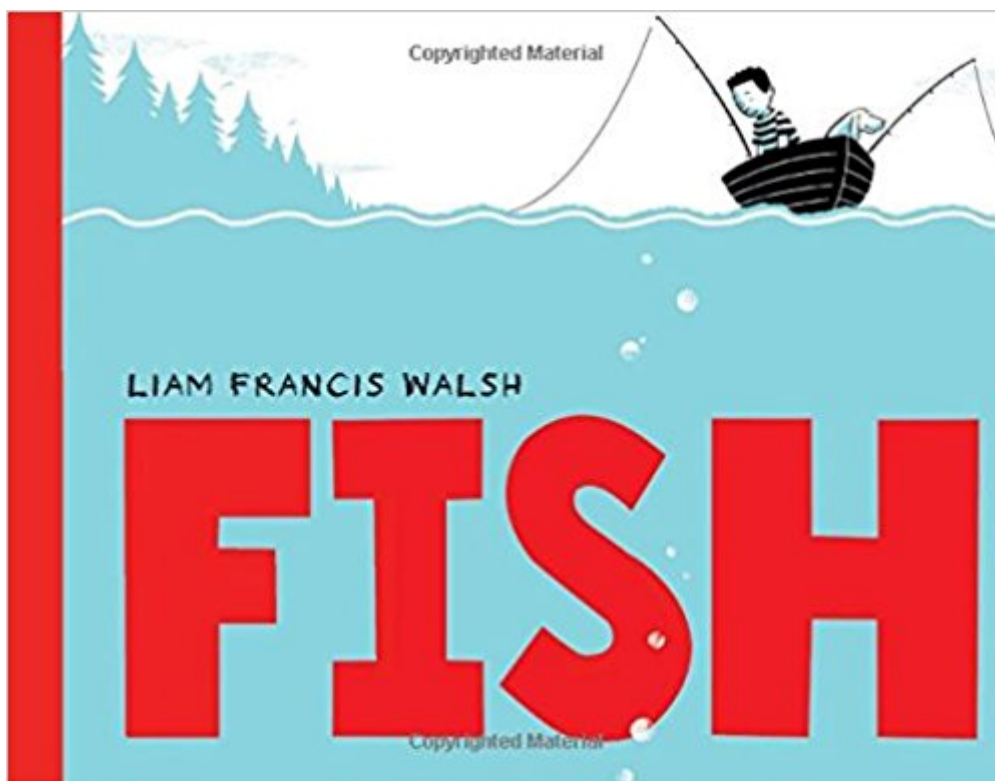


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# Fish: A Picture Book



## Synopsis

A boy and his dog embark on a fishing journey. Their first catch of the day: a big fat letter F. Their second? A slippery I. After an epic journey beneath the lake's surface, they find what they came for-- a FISH, along with some unanticipated menace from a few other letters. This clever, wordless picture book, by a popular New Yorker cartoonist, is filled with charm and heart and will have no problem swimming its way into the hearts of young readers.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Roaring Brook Press (May 31, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1626723338

ISBN-13: 978-1626723337

Product Dimensions: 11.3 x 11.4 x 224.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 11 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #125,575 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #119 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Fish](#) #186 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Environment](#) #2067 in [Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works](#)

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

K-Gr 2 **4.8** stars • In this fast-paced wordless fishing adventure, a boy and his dog, with tackle box and fishing poles in tow, dash past a bewildered man starting a road race as they head for a boat. First they catch the letter F and next the letter I, but then things get more complicated in the water. Unwanted letters start popping up, and a large C threatens to overturn the boat! These graphically lively red letters bring action and tension to the plot as menacing A's look like shark fins rising out of the water and angry B's swarm around them. In the end, boy and dog manage to hook F, I, S, and H and get safely back on dry land. In one final plot twist, readers discover that these letters were meant for an even bigger purpose (and word) as the boy and his dog bring them to the road race "(FI)NI(SH)" line, which is missing the caught letters and creating all kinds of confusion for the runners. Cartoon illustrations done in pen and watercolor use a limited palette of black, white, aqua,

and red, giving the art striking contrasts and a retro comic feel. VERDICT This essentially wordless story uses visual details and letters to create a gripping story and a clever word game. A strong addition. — Julie Roach, Cambridge Public Library, MA

"A full-bodied story with an economy of style, this will be particularly rewarding for emerging readers." — Kirkus Reviews, starred "This essentially wordless story uses visual details and letters to create a gripping story and a clever word game. A strong addition." — School Library Journal "With an old-fashioned palette of blue, black, and red, these clever cartoon-influenced illustrations will hook young readers." — Booklist "Walsh works in a deliciously retro style evocative of both vintage screen prints and the work of Hergé, and his graphic skills and visually storytelling are highly polished." — Publishers Weekly "The pacing is spot-on, with full pages, spreads, and occasional panel art all working together to reel in the laughs, making this more than just another fish story." — Horn Book

A simple story. No moral to the story. No "What have we learned today, children?" kind of story, "about sharing, and never giving up, and swiping off our smartphones to discover the wonder of nature in our own backyard?" Let me tell you, kids don't like those kinds of stories; their grannies do. Kids like a story that challenges, makes them wonder where the plot is going, makes them tickle at a turned page, and gives them that "oh!" moment at the denouement. Kind of like adults! That's this book. Simple illustrations drive the plot, and children will have to figure out what the heck is going on with all those alphabet letters coming up out of the water. When I say "simple illustrations," I mean clean lines of an illustrator who is obviously a pro. This book is so charming, I bought three of 'em. And I'm only giving away two.

Loved the story and the illustrations are absolutely beautiful! The book unfolds easily along a solid story path, while creating ample space for multiple narratives (and re-reads!) for youngsters. Seamlessly designed to encourage and allow for endless imagination for parents and young readers, and the chance to explore other dimensions beyond the obvious. The fun and faithful pooch is such a recognizable and constant hero on many pages! Bought more copies for our friends with kids as this is a real page-turner for wee ones!

"FISH" is wonderfully imaginative, using delightful illustrations to tell a delightful tale about a boy and his dog who go "fishing" for...well, I don't want to give away the story except to say, your child from

age two on up can "read" this book to you with, perhaps, a different hook each time. Mr. Walsh is also a cartoonist for the New Yorker and, as you will see, he has a sly humor that will appeal to all ages.

Nothing more valuable than lap time with a little one. While sharing this book aids in letter recognition for preschoolers, it also allows you and your child of any age to engage in dialog about what each illustration might be implying, so you get to create the story as you turn the pages.

Brilliant! By avoiding dialogue Walsh focuses on what is important- struggle, attainment, loss, friendship, teamwork, recovery and the success of helping others. By searching for a word Walsh focuses on the nature of ineffable meaning. Something for readers of all ages!!!

Great book! My 2 & 3 year old read it with me and make up a new story each time. Highly recommend!

It's an awesome book for children and adults! I highly recommend it! I'm a preschool teacher and it's really appropriate for kids to learn the letters!

Summary: A boy and his dog are on an unusual fishing expedition in this wordless book. Instead of fish, he pulls letters in from the sea; first an F, then an I, then an S. But the H seems much more elusive. As he catches and tosses back a Q, a giant C looms. Finally, there's a tug on his hook, but it turns into more than a tug, and he is pulled out of the boat, and deep into the ocean, where he pulls an H from a huge swarm of letters. Safely back in the boat, the boy and his dog are ready to head for shore, but the letters have different ideas. They surround the boat, and the giant C almost capsizes them. Fortunately, the dog hangs on to the letters, and at last they are able to make a safe return. The purpose of their mission becomes clear as they approach a couple of workmen puzzling over the sign they're hanging that reads "FINISH". The FISH is what they need to create a FINISH line, just in time for the huge group of runners that's ready to cross it. Pros: New Yorker cartoonist Walsh has created a fun story with his comic-style black, white, red, and turquoise illustrations. Readers will enjoy the "A-ha!" moment of discovering what the FISH is really for. And the dog is pretty darn cute. Cons: As in so many wordless books, there were some puzzling elements, like the underwater letters and the giant C. Make sure you

have your imagination fired up before tackling this story.

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