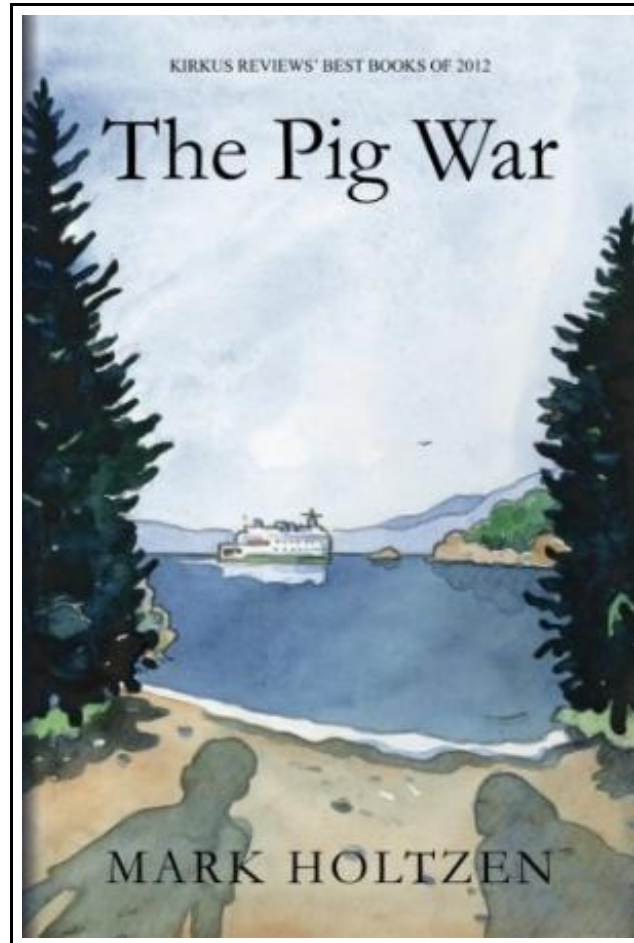


The Pig War



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Reviews

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(Prof. Adolph Wisoky)

THE PIG WAR

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CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 146 pages. Dimensions: 8.8in. x 5.8in. x 0.4in. Kirkus Reviews Best of 2012 Selection A boys summer with his grumpy grandfather turns into a fun adventure on an island in the Pacific Northwest in this contemporary middle-grade novel. In his fiction debut, third-grade teacher Holtzen captures the attention of young readers with a tale inspired in part by a historical event: the Pig War, an 1859 boundary dispute between the U. S. and Great Britain. Kell and his younger sister, Grace, must spend their summer with a grandfather theyve never met on Mobray Island in the San Juan Islands, an archipelago in the state of Washington, after political unrest abroad disrupts their parents travel plans. The boy takes one look at his grandfather and his primitive cabin and decides his summer is going to be terrible; but he soon finds an old pistol and a 19th-century diary. While trying to keep an eye on the rambunctious Grace, Kell becomes absorbed in solving the mystery of the artifacts. Life on Mobray Island turns out to be more fun than he first expected, and when he reunites with his parents, hes sorry to say goodbye to the island and his grandfather. Kell is a likable character, and many young readers will identify with his frustrations about life on the isolated island. Children may also relate to his early disappointment about having to visit an older relative, which emerges when Kell becomes annoyed with his grandfather and thinks, All you do is make weird sounds with your mouth. The mystery of the journal and gun, as well as Grandads mysterious fishing trips, will keep readers turning the pages to find out what happens next. Readers in the Pacific Northwest...



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