



The Fourteenth Goldfish

By Jennifer L. Holm

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Believe in the possible . . . with this *New York Times* bestseller by three-time Newbery Honor winner Jennifer L. Holm.

Galileo. Newton. Salk. Oppenheimer. Science can change the world . . . but can it go too far?

Eleven-year-old Ellie has never liked change. She misses fifth grade. She misses her old best friend. She even misses her dearly departed goldfish. Then one day a strange boy shows up. He's bossy. He's cranky. And weirdly enough . . . he looks a lot like Ellie's grandfather, a scientist who's always been slightly obsessed with immortality. Could this gawky teenager really be Grandpa Melvin? Has he finally found the secret to eternal youth?

With a lighthearted touch and plenty of humor, Jennifer Holm celebrates the wonder of science and explores fascinating questions about life and death, family and friendship, immortality . . . and possibility. Look for **EXCLUSIVE NEW MATERIAL** in the paperback—including Ellie's gallery of scientists and other STEM-appropriate features.

"Warm, witty, and wise." —*The New York Times*

* "Written in a clean, crisp style, with lively dialogue and wit, this highly accessible novel will find a ready audience." —*Booklist*, Starred

* "Top-notch middle-grade fiction." —*Publishers Weekly*, Starred

* "Ellie's memorable journey into the world of science will inspire readers to explore the world around them and celebrate the possible." —*Shelf Awareness*, Starred

"Awesomely strange and startlingly true-to-life. It makes you wonder what's possible." —Rebecca Stead, Newbery Medal-winning author of *When You Reach Me*

A SUNSHINE STATE AWARD FINALIST!

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 5–7—Eleven-year-old Ellie Cruz's life changes dramatically when her mother brings a teenage boy home one night and she learns it is her estranged grandfather. Melvin is a scientist who has figured out how to reverse aging and is now 13 again. Tensions are high between Melvin and his adult daughter, Ellie's mother, but Ellie feels like she now has the opportunity to really get to know her grandfather. Her interest in science blossoms, and she is eager to help Melvin retrieve the jellyfish specimen he used in his experiments so he can publish his discovery. Fascinated, Ellie learns about the work of Jonas Salk, Robert Oppenheimer, and Marie Curie. But as she learns more, she realizes that scientific discoveries often have unforeseen consequences. Readers are carried along with Ellie as she navigates old and new friendships in her first year in middle school with the added complication of her teenage grandfather at the same school. Short chapters keep the story moving at an engaging pace, and the interactions among the characters will easily hold readers' interest. Ellie's growing relationship with her grandfather helps her make discoveries about herself. Melvin, who begins as unapologetically single-minded in his determination to continue his work, also learns from Ellie. With humor and heart, Holm has crafted a story about life, family, and finding one's passion that will appeal to readers willing to imagine the possible.—Amanda Raklovits, Champaign Public Library, IL

Review

***Publishers Weekly* starred review, May 26, 2014:**

"This is top-notch middle-grade fiction with a meaty dilemma, humor, and an ending that leaves room for the possibility of a sequel. "

***Booklist* starred review, July 1, 2014:**

"A great choice for book groups and class discussions as well as individual reading."

***New York Times Books Review*, August 24, 2014:**

"“Youth, old age, life, death, love, possibilities, and – oh yes – goldfish all come together in this warm, witty and wise novel.”

***The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*, September 2014:**

"Holm's writing is crisp, accessible, and well paced, and her enthusiasm for science and its impact emerges clearly and consistently but not overbearingly, with clear, appreciative nods to the world of theater and its purpose in our lives. Indeed, this novel explores weighty elements of human existence with a light touch, allowing readers to engage with the issues at multiple levels; an excellent appendix of recommended readings encourages exploration and dialogue. This novel would make an ideal classroom read aloud, particularly to expose students to the rich and rewarding STEM fields."

About the Author

JENNIFER L. HOLM's father was a pediatrician and she grew up listening to him talk about the wonder of antibiotics and how science could change the world. Today Jennifer is the *New York Times* bestselling author of three Newbery Honor books, as well as the co-creator of the Babymouse series (an Eisner Award Winner) and the Squish series, both of which she collaborates on with her brother, Matthew Holm. Find out more about her by visiting jenniferholm.com and look for her on Twitter at @jenniholm.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Laura Wilson:

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Cary Freeman:

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation or go to the outside with them friends and family or their friend. Did you know? Many a lot of people spent they free time just watching TV, as well as playing video games all day long. If you wish to try to find a new activity that's look different you can read some sort of book. It is really fun for yourself. If you enjoy the book that you just read you can spent all day every day to reading a book. The book The Fourteenth Goldfish it is quite good to read. There are a lot of those who recommended this book. These were enjoying reading this book. In the event you did not have enough space to create this book you can buy typically the e-book. You can m0ore effortlessly to read this book from the smart phone. The price is not too costly but this book has high quality.

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