

Freak The Mighty

Freak the Mighty, written by Rodman Philbrick, is a story of how two very different people come to make a true friendship. Max, the main character, is a huge kid who has the brains of a dumbbell, while Freak, whose real name is Kevin, is a tiny genius. This story takes place in a small town in the East of the U.S. around the present date. In the beginning, when Freak moves next door to Max, Freak gets his toy bird stuck in a tree, so Max comes and grabs it out for him. That is where the friendship started. Then, on the 4th of July, Freak and Max go to watch the fireworks by the nearby pond. They meet a dude named Tony D. alias Blade, and his gang who try to hurt them. Freak steers Max into the pond, which is where the name Freak the Mighty came from. Later, Freak takes Max to the Medical Research Lab, where he tells Max that because his legs are deformed, he is soon going to get a robotic transplant, the first ever. Max's dad, who served time in jail because he killed Max's mother, got out early and kidnapped Max, where the dad takes him to a rundown old house. He ties Max up. In the end, Freak comes and rescues Max Killer Kane ends up in jail once again. Later, when Freak has a seizure, he goes to the hospital, but after a week or two, he dies.

I strongly believe the author was trying to tell us that true friendships are hard to come by and, when they do, they are life changing, even if it only lasts for a little bit. In the end, Max wrote a whole book on his adventures with Freak, but before that, he would have never written a paragraph, let alone a whole book. On page 160, it states that "I wrote the unvanquished truth stuff down for months and months." Most people, as it turns out, go through their whole life without having a true friendship. On page 159, Grim, Max's grandfather, says, "Most of us go all the way through life and we never have a friend like Kevin." True friendships are very important in life.

Portfolio Reflection #12 -

Freak the Mighty

Assessment

Freak the Mighty by Rodman

Philbrick is a very good book to read in the classroom. Even though one of the main characters dies in the end, it has an amazing moral to it. The story is about two kids, one who is crippled and small, but a genius (Freak), while the other is large and not very smart (Max). These two kids become friends and do everything together. Then, Max's dad, who is a criminal, comes and kidnaps his son. Eventually, the Freak comes in and saves him. Then, after the genius dies, Max writes down all their adventures together. This was an awesome book to read, and I would strongly encourage you to read it as well.