

It's a joy to be yourself

Bridesmaid Boris

SAM VANBELLE & KIM CRABEELS

Boris hasn't got time to play football with the boys of the neighbourhood; he's too busy getting ready for Doll and Action Man's wedding party. He folds napkins into flowers, blows up white balloons and makes the finger food. But when he tries to get Doll to wear a princess dress, things don't go as planned. Doll wants to play with the racing car instead. And Action Man would prefer to marry the tough but tender Bear. Boris realizes that everything needs to be different, so he organizes a splendid party with glitter and rainbow colours.

An extraordinary picture book

STOERLEESVOER

'Bridesmaid Boris' is a colourful picture book that treats diversity not as a subject but as the most natural thing in the world. It shows children that above all they should be themselves, and demonstrates with humour and flair that gender roles and preferences don't need to fit into pigeonholes. The flamboyant pencil and aquarelle drawings in bright colours make the fun and games and the merriment leap from the pages.

'Bridesmaid Boris' is a fun, fresh addition to the array of books that break through gender stereotypes.

CARGO CONFETTI



AUTHORS



Sam Vanbelle (b. 1984) is an illustrator, designer and teacher. Diversity is important to Vanbelle, and their illustrations feature a broad spectrum of characters, including but not limited to people of colour, strong feminine figures, members of the LGBTQIA+ community, and people with disabilities. Colour is another important constant in their work. **Kim Crabeels** (b. 1981) combines her work as an author of children's books with a job as a cultural programmer. In that role she puts together a programme of activities and performances for little ones. She writes stories for children aged 4 to 14, but her humorous texts with a sensitive twist appeal just as much to adults. Her work has been translated into more than five languages. Photo © Polaphoto

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