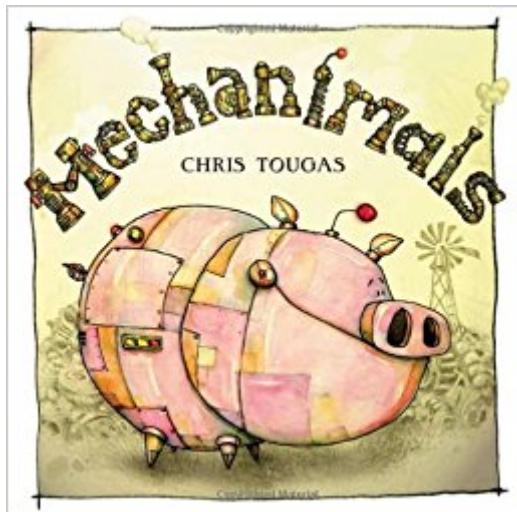


The book was found

# Mechanimals



## **Synopsis**

When a tornado leaves a farmer with a heap of scrap metal and no animals, his neighbors are sure it's all over for him. But the determined farmer refuses to admit defeat. His plans are big, and when his neighbors dismiss them with the words, "When pigs fly," they grow bigger still. The farmer sets to work to turn that scrap metal into some rather surprising creatures. *Mechanicals* will help all of us believe in our dreams, despite what the neighbors may say.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 400L (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Orca Book Publishers (September 1, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 145980273X

ISBN-13: 978-1459802735

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.2 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 7 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #155,950 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #85 in Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Science Fiction > Robots #194 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > Farm Life #316 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Farm Animals

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## **Customer Reviews**

"The story is quite clever and youngsters will be drawn in by the simple text and folksy humor. The illustrations are the star of the show though; each page features a monochromatic background with the action or character in question in full color. This makes the action standout and helps the reader focus the eye on the action going on in the text...A simple story comes very much alive with these wonderful illustrations." (Southwest Ohio and Neighboring Libraries 2012-10-09)"A refreshingly original and quirky idea for a children's picture book." (BC Bookworld 2007-10-01)"An unusual and likeable picture book." (Quill & Quire 2007-10-01)"The illustrations...are delightful. Recommended." (CM Magazine 2007-09-01)"Dreamers and inventors alike will enjoy the crazy illustrations and nutty premise of this exuberant picture book." (Island Parent 2008-12-01)"Will appeal to budding

inventors and those who have big dreams." (Canadian Children's Book News 2008-08-01)"Young and old readers with an interest in vehicles or gadgets might find appeal in this book." (Resource Links 2008-01-01)"Written and charmingly illustrated by Chris Tougas, this large work for young readers boasts...many inventive drawings." (Times-Colonist 2008-10-12)"The illustrations in this story are wonderful and enhance the text, making the story a delight to read." (Library Media Connection 2008-02-01)"This salute to ingenuity features...amusing industrial-hued illustrations with pops of color honor the farmer's imaginative vision." (The Horn Book Guide 2008-04-01)"Tougas gives us an ingenious farmer and a visually fascinating, funny book." (The Globe and Mail 2007-12-01)"Tougas' bright illustrations will draw young readers in." (NJ Youth Services 2012-12-05)

When pigs fly!

Adorable illustrations! We loved looking at every illustration of the animals, the details are hilarious.

Great!

My now 6 year old enjoys this book very much. We came across it on a kids book app and this is the one he wanted to keep reading over and over. I enjoy it too, it's very cute and the illustrations are great! We finally bought it for the kindle so that we can read it any place and anywhere.

Cute story and beautiful artwork- parents and kids will enjoy!

There is an old saying that sums up things pretty well, "When life gives you lemons, make lemonade." In the case of one particular old farmer, when life gave him a big, windy and horrible tornado that swept everything away, he made mechanimals. When a twister blows through a small farm community it leaves a humongous mess of scrap metal and dust. But, this little farmer is determined to make a master piece out of the left over mess. His neighbors didn't have a lot of faith in him. Their comment was, "when pigs fly." That didn't stop the farmer. He got busy getting organized and drawing up plans. His first creation from that heap was a robot rooster so he wouldn't sleep in. Then he made chick-bots, cow-bots, horse-bot and sheep-bots too. The farmers creations helped him put his farm back together. But there was one last creation he needed to make just so he could show-off to his neighbors. Can you guess what it is? Tougas is a genius. This one of a kind

story is truly fun and imaginative. Robot animals are cute and quirky. The illustrations will have young readers believing these little critters really exist. Simple short sentences make learning to read easy. The pictures will have little readers eager to tell their own version of the story.

This book has wonderful illustrations and a good message of "When things go badly, think out of the box and figure out how to get back on top." That is exactly what the farmer did when a tornado swept through and took everything while leaving behind a pile of scraps. The farmer used those scraps to rebuild his life. Kids will love the quirky mechanical animals. My only negative comments are: 1) about the illustrations. The author uses a scratching style perhaps to age the picture. It causes the pictures to not be as clear as they could be for young eyes. Otherwise they are beautiful. and 2) The story is a little bit flat. The author has a fun and humorous style. I would have liked more story.

"Mechanimals" is delightful! It's so much fun to watch the farmer's new bots take shape. Chris Tougas' illustrations are brilliantly stylized and bring a smile to the face. Simple text tells just enough and leaves the rest to play out on the page and in the imagination. First published in 2007, the paperback edition is a welcome and inexpensive discovery. Children and adults will love visiting this barnyard.

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Mechanimals

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