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# Better Than You



## Synopsis

Jake's bragging is really starting to get to his neighbor Tyler. Tyler can't show Jake a basketball move, a school assignment, or a new toy without Jake saying he can do better. Tyler starts to wonder: "Is something wrong with him? Is he really such a loser? Is Jake really better than him at everything? Or is Jake the one with the problem? With the help of his uncle Kevin, Tyler begins to understand that Jake's bragging has nothing to do with Tyler's own abilities and that puffing yourself up leaves little room for friends.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 640L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Knopf Books for Young Readers; 8/14/11 edition (September 13, 2011)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 8.3 x 0.3 x 10.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 28 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #46,481 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #115 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Bullies #322 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Self-Esteem & Self-Respect #487 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Emotions & Feelings

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

## Customer Reviews

Review, Kirkus Reviews, August 15, 2011: "...anyone suffering the oxygen-depleting windbaggery of the neighborhood boaster will find solace here."

TRUDY LUDWIG is a nationally acclaimed speaker and an award-winning author who specializes in writing children's books that help kids cope with and thrive in their social world, including *The Invisible Boy* and *My Secret Bully*. She has received rave reviews from educators, experts, organizations, and parents at schools and conferences around the US for her passion and

compassion in addressing peer aggression and friendship issues. An active member of the International Bullying Prevention Association, Trudy also collaborates with organizations like the Committee for Children and ConnectSafely.org, and has served as content advisor for Sesame Street Workshop. Trudy's books have won the Mom's Choice Gold Award, the IBPA Gold Benjamin Franklin Award, and the NAPPA Gold Medal, and also been recognized as NCSS-CBC Notable Social Studies Books for Young People. Visit her at [trudyludwig.com](http://trudyludwig.com). ADAM GUSTAVSON has illustrated more than a dozen picture books, including the award-winning *The Yankee at the Seder*, also published by Tricycle Press. Accolades for Adam's books include the IRA-CBC Children's Choice, Bank Street Best Books of the Year, and a Sydney Taylor Honor. Adam received an MFA from the School of Visual Arts in New York and has taught illustration at Seton Hall University, The University of the Arts, and Passaic County College.

I am a school counselor and have had the privilege of Trudy visiting our school twice. Her books are always straight to the point (on tough topics) and well written. When I read her books to group of students, you can hear a pin drop... they are captivated by her ability to connect on issues that are often difficult to put your finger on. *Better Than You* does not disappoint, in fact, I can't wait to read this with my own children and plug it into classroom lessons in the next couple of weeks. So grateful for all of Trudy's dedication to quality literature based on felt needs of children today! I would recommend purchasing all of Trudy's books for proactive parenting. :)

Trudy Ludwig fills a need for young readers who benefit from stories that guide them through the difficulties of unpleasant social interactions. This is a wonderful addition to any library and a good tool for guidance counselors and teachers who want to help students navigate tough situations.

The point got across, and this book is good for a discussion starter. I wish, however, that it would have included more depth. Because the main character did not experience much (not enough drama), the connection with the story could be lost for a child reading this himself without an adult leading him in discussion about it. I am an elementary school counselor and I am successful using this book in small groups and mediation sessions.

Good book

This was an excellent book to kick off our "Building Strong Readers" unit in fourth grade. Highly

recommend this book as a read aloud.

Great for school counselors & others who work with children.

Great book! My child learned that bragging equals bad manners and no friends after one reading.

Thank you!

From a mom perspective and a school counselor perspective...this is a great book! I highly recommend it. Both of my kids enjoy it.

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