



★ **A Crocodile in the Family**

Kitty Black

Daron Parton, Illustrator

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A bright, warm palette streaked with pencil lines and fine brushstrokes enhances this poignant story of looking beyond differences to find unconditional love. When a family of birds adopts an abandoned egg in the forest, they are not expecting a crocodile, but they welcome him regardless. The other animals are confused and speculate why they would keep him—for his beauty? For his strength?—before Croccy’s family explains the simple truth: “Because he belongs with us.”

DANIELLE BALLANTYNE (September / October 2021)

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