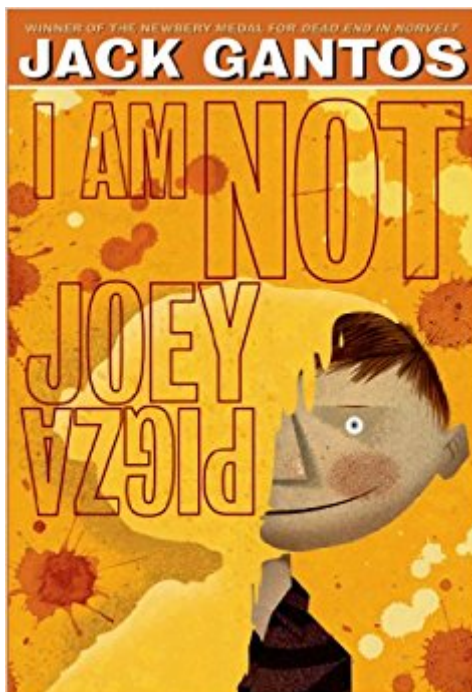


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# I Am Not Joey Pigza



## Synopsis

Just when Joey Pigza's wired world finally seems to be under control, his good-for-nothing dad pops back into his life. This time, though, Carter Pigza is a new man â “ literally. After a lucky lotto win, Carter Pigza has a crazy new outlook on life, and he's even changed his name to Charles Heinz. He thinks Joey and his mom should become new people, too. Soon Joey finds himself bombarded with changes: a new name, a new home, and a new family business â “ running the beat-up Beehive Diner. He knows he should forgive his dad as his mom wants him to, and get with the new family program. But in *I Am Not Joey Pigza*, Joey is afraid that in changing names and going with the flow he will lose sight of who he really is. In Jack Gantos' rocket-paced new chapter in Joey Pigza's life, a favorite hero discovers what identity and forgiveness really mean, and how to cook a delicious turkey burger. This title has Common Core connections.

## Book Information

Series: Joey Pigza (Book 4)

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Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 26 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #230,283 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #52 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Special Needs](#) #146 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Depression & Mental Illness](#) #191 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Family > Parents](#)

## Customer Reviews

Starred Review. Grade 5â “7â “ Irrepressible Joey must draw upon all of his emotional reserves to face his latest challenge. His good-for-nothing dad shows up, having won the lottery and acquired a new identity. Carter Pigza is now Charles Heinz; he's won back Joey's mother, Fran (renamed Maria); and Joey is expected to forgive him his past sins and reinvent himself as Freddy Heinz. Dad has big plans for the family. He's bought a run-down diner and will use his son to drum up business by standing by the roadside in a bee costume. Mom is on a spending spree and pressures Joey to

forgive his father and do as he says. But Joey senses how wrong this is, and his struggle is palpable. By the time he concedes, his father has given up on the diner idea and has spent all of his money on losing lottery tickets. As usual, when the chips are down, Carter takes off, just as Fran is about to have a baby. Gantos tells the tale with unfailing humor, delicious wordplay, and many hilarious scenes, but this is the darkest Joey book to date. Carter's unreliability is a given, but Fran Pigza's willingness to buy into the surreal scene is unsettling and underscores the fact that Joey is really on his own. Nevertheless, readers will cheer as his indomitable spirit prevails; he neither rescinds nor regrets his forgiveness, and he is thrilled to have a baby brother. The appearance of Junior Pigza promises a new purpose in Joey's life, the possibility of a future ally in his crazy world, and, perhaps, adventures to come.â "Marie Orlando, Suffolk Cooperative Library System, Bellport, NY Copyright Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

--This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

**\*Starred Review\*** In this fourth installment of the Joey Pigza series, life becomes even more complicated for the wired sixth-grader when bad dad Carter and mom Fran reconcile and, in an attempt to start anew, reinvent themselves as the high-living Charles and Maria Heinz. Aided by a small pool of lottery winnings, hyperactive Charles dreams of success as the owner of a bee-themed diner and enlists the cooking and PR talents of Joey, whose schooling is quickly eschewed for an oversize bee costume and a sign advertising "fast food." Joey struggles with forgivingÂ Charles for their rocky past and embracing his new identity as Freddy Heinz,Â but it is the memory of his grandmother and news of a baby Heinz on the way that prompt himÂ toÂ accept his father andÂ realize that the adults in his life may have just as much difficulty making the right choices as he does. Gantos' hilarious storytelling, including accounts of an over-the-top "rewedding," an all-out paintball war between father and son, and a thwarted attempt at sneaking into an amusement park help soften the more serious issues at play in the story.Â Although the ending is heartbreaking, Joey, assuming his old identity, learns to let go of the past and dedicates himself to being a good role modelÂ for his new baby brother. McKulski, Kristen --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

I bought this for my middle schooler who enjoyed reading it.

It was so good I couldn't put it down until I was completely done with the book that I read. Good book 10/10

I am very pleased with this purchase. Not very many books address the subject of ADHD from the child's point of view, and this book does so very well and tastefully, and in language that a 11 year old and adults can easily understand. I gave it to my 12 year old granddaughter who has ADHD and she loved it. It did her a world of good to know that there are other children out there in her same predicament. I would recommend it to any child or adult who is dealing with children with ADHD. I liked it so well, I purchased the entire series!

My granddaughter loves these books! It came very fast which made us all happy..LOVE !

Awesome.

I never received it

My students can't get enough of Joey Pigza! Thank you.

Funny how did you come up with writing the fourth joey pigza wish I could buy the whole series are you gonna make a fifth one if you did I'll really enjoy it ;)

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