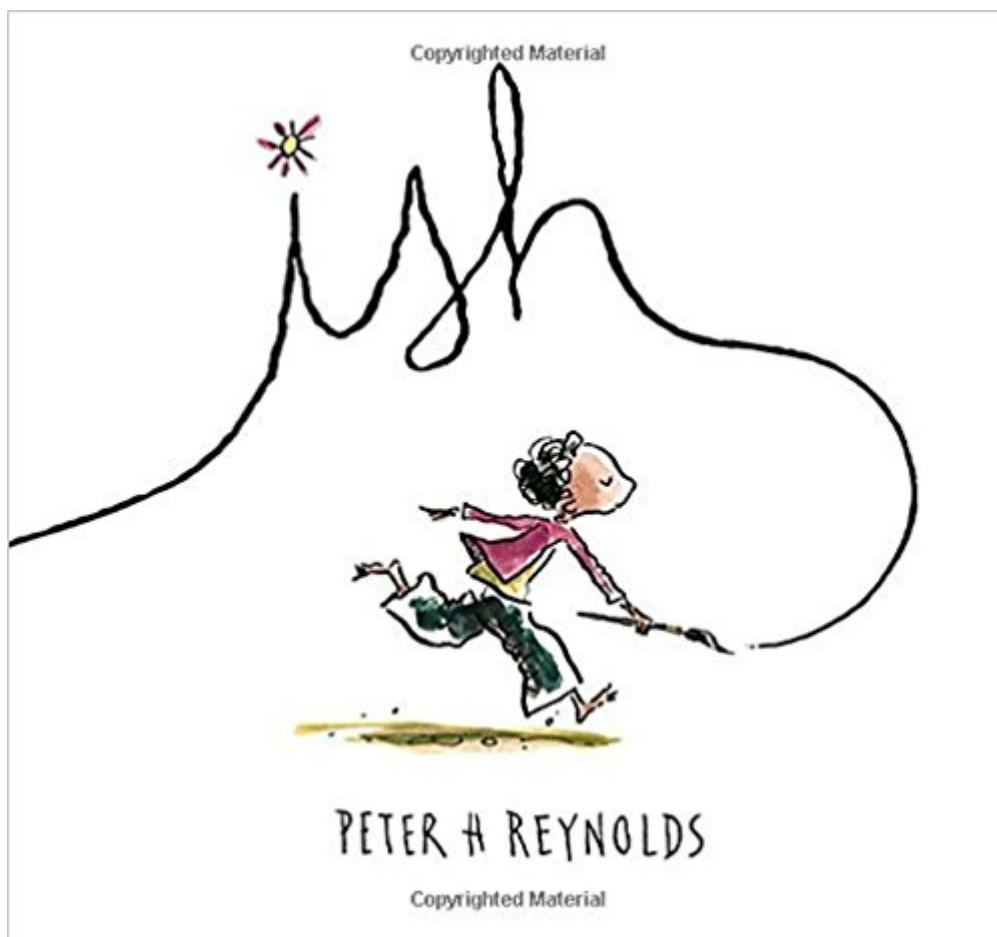


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# Ish (Creatrilogy)



## Synopsis

A creative spirit learns that thinking "ish-ly" is far more wonderful than "getting it right" in this gentle new fable from the creator of the award-winning picture book *THE DOT*. Ramon loved to draw. Anytime. Anything. Anywhere. Drawing is what Ramon does. It's what makes him happy. But in one split second, all that changes. A single reckless remark by Ramon's older brother, Leon, turns Ramon's carefree sketches into joyless struggles. Luckily for Ramon, though, his little sister, Marisol, sees the world differently. She opens his eyes to something a lot more valuable than getting things just "right." Combining the spareness of fable with the potency of parable, Peter Reynolds shines a bright beam of light on the need to kindle and tend our creative flames with care.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 440L (What's this?)

Series: Creatrilogy

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Candlewick; 1st edition (August 19, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 076362344X

ISBN-13: 978-0763623449

Product Dimensions: 8.4 x 0.3 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 264 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #31,055 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #38 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Hispanic & Latino #117 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Art #227 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Siblings

Age Range: 5 and up

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 12

## Customer Reviews

Starred Review. Kindergarten-Grade 3 - Reynolds follows *The Dot* (Candlewick, 2003) with this companion story about creativity and the artistic process. Ramon loves to draw: "Anytime. Anything. Anywhere." When his older brother laughs at one of his pictures and points out that it does not look like a real vase of flowers, a dejected Ramon crumples up all of his efforts. However, he soon learns that his younger sister has hung the discarded papers on her bedroom walls. When he declares that

the picture of the vase doesn't look like the real thing, she says that it looks "vase-ish." The child then begins to produce paintings that look "tree-ish," "afternoon-ish," and "silly-ish." His "ish art" inspires him to look at all creative endeavors differently. The watercolor, ink, and tea illustrations have a childlike charm. Set against white backgrounds, the quirky line drawings and restrained use of color combine to create an attractive, unique picture book. The small size lends itself to one-on-one sharing and thoughtful examination. Ish, like Leo Lionni's Frederick (Knopf, 1967), encourages readers to see the world anew. - Shawn Brommer, South Central Library System, Madison, WI Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

PreS-Gr. 2. Reynolds' previous book, *The Dot* (see Top 10 Arts Books for Youth on p.497), imparted an important message to kids about the various ways in which art can be defined. This has a similar message, but unlike the character in *The Dot*, who doesn't believe she can draw, Ramon loves to draw. In fact, he draws wherever he can, even on the toilet. But after his older brother laughs at his work, Ramon loses confidence; none of his drawings look right to him anymore. He's about to quit drawing when his sister shows him that she has kept all his crumpled efforts. Now he understands that though he doesn't draw exact replicas (his trees are only "tree-ish"), the response his art engenders is what matters. It's likely that fewer children will identify with Ramon than with the girl in the previous book, but this certainly has a strong message, and the overriding theme about creativity versus exactitude will resonate with many. The line-and-color artwork is simple, but it has great emotion and warmth. Kids will respond to that, too. Ilene Cooper Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

Peter Reynolds takes readers on a journey of discovery as it relates to art in the book. But the story is much deeper than art. I love that Peter Reynolds subtly tells the readers that just because someone doesn't like something we created doesn't mean others won't find it amazing. This is a picture book for kids, but it speaks to anyone in the business of creating.

This is a wonderful story about making artwork that is beautiful and expressive and helps children understand that drawing doesn't have to be perfect. It has been very beneficial to my right brained learner and has allowed her to express her creativity in her own way.

This book was so good for my son. He is autistic and after reading this story one day. He was trying

to tell me about someone he met, and he typed, "He is only autistic!SH." Thank you Mr. Reynolds

Whimsically and artistically done. A boy paints and his little sister sees the beauty in his work. A touching story for young and old. The book is short but, what a powerful lesson for us all. Look for the beauty in all you see. This book is an Accelerated Reader making it all the more popular at our school. It is part of the Growth Mindset materials.

In a nutshell: Ish is a short story of a boy named Ramon who loves to draw. He draws anything, anytime, anywhere (including while he's sitting on the commode.) One day his older brother Leon laughs at his drawing, destroys his confidence, and Ramon throws in the proverbial artist's towel. But then he finds that his little sister Marisol has been collecting his rejected works of art and describes them each as vase-ish, sun-ish, fish-ish, etc. Ramon regains his confidence, revels in his new ish freedom and lives happily ever after-ish. I love this book because it helps to combat the popular "I can't draw" myth that grabs hold of most people and strangles their creativity long before it should. It's a cute story but not one that gets a lot of requests from the bunk bed crowd. Families can talk about: Can anyone be artistic? What should you say or do if someone laughs at your work? What does "ish" mean? Is Ramon a girl or just a boy with big hair?

I bought this book to compliment Reynolds's The Dot book for my children in anticipation of International Dot Day (September 15). It's exactly what I expected and at an excellent price. The colors are vibrant and the quality of the book/binding is great. I'm sure we'll have it long after the occasion. I'd definitely recommend buying this book whether you and your kids intend to make your mark on the world this year or just want a quick read with a little inspiration.

My 4y old likes telling me she's doing some "ish" drawing. When she can't get something to turn out right she sighs and says "well it's -ish."

I have purchased several copies of this book and given them as gifts. Love the message

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