

A FLEA'S LAMENT

CATHERINE M. CUMMINGS, JUNIBIRD PRODUCTIONS, BEVERLY HILLS, CA, \$6.95,
paperback, (20p)
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'A Flea's Lament' by Catherine M. Cummings is the simple story of a flea's lack of self-esteem and how he overcomes it. Wendy Simpson Conner's vivid drawings supplement the lucid writing style well to come up with an interesting picture book. The picture on the third page, in which the flea says 'I am Cute' is quite catchy.

The flea has a low self-image and has a feeling that everyone around him dislikes him. He is very depressed and asks his mother why people hate him and 'try to squash' him. She lovingly reassures him that it is not so and that his parents and grandparents love him and care for him. The flea is very happy to hear this. Wendy has captured this joy in a drawing on the last page, which shows the flea beaming a smile with the entire family standing behind him.

Catherine has described in a simple manner how a mother plays an important role in building the self-esteem of a child. Together with Wendy, she has written an appealing book that every child will love to read.

BookWire Review
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