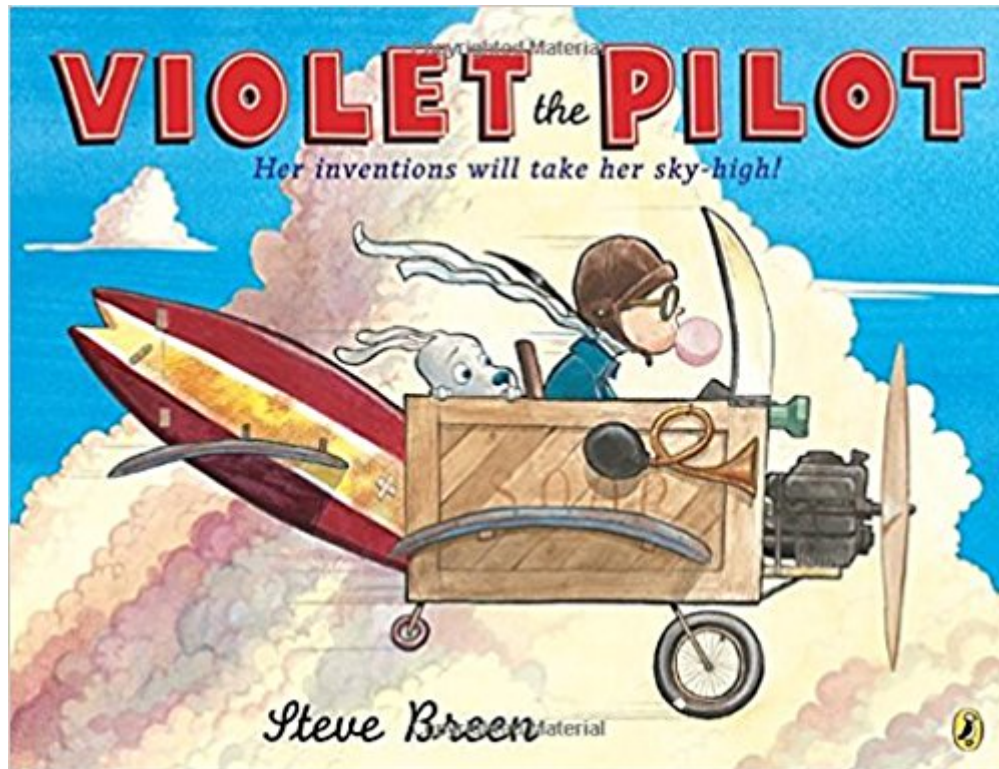




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# Violet The Pilot



## Synopsis

Violet is a science-loving girl inventor with a flair for the air! Fans of Ada Twist, Scientist and Rosie Revere, Engineer will love this classic underdog story by two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning editorial cartoonist Steve Breen. By the time she's two years old, Violet Van Winkle can engineer nearly any appliance in the house. And by eight she's building elaborate flying machines from scratch—mind-boggling contraptions such as the Tubbubler, the Bicycopter, and the Wing-a-ma-jig. The kids at school tease her, but they have no idea what she's capable of. Maybe she could earn their respect by winning the blue ribbon in the upcoming Air Show. Or maybe something even better will happen—something involving her best-ever invention, a Boy Scout troop in peril, and even the mayor himself! "An engaging story of a spunky girl who follows her dreams . . . Violet is a terrific role model."--School Library Journal

## Book Information

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Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

Breen's newest picture book accompanies a young girl and her trusty canine companion, Orville, on a trial-and-error journey into the world of flight. Violet, whose creativity and love of all things mechanical alienate her from the kids at school, is passionate about flying. Hoping to wow the town and win friends with her talents, she builds a plane and enters an air show, only to be waylaid en route to the competition. In the end, however, she achieves her

goal—though it's not her acrobatics and engineering skills that win her recognition but her quick thinking and valor. Breen makes good use of both comedy and perspective in action-packed pictures that show Violet and Orville looping it up in a variety of wacky flying ships. This will make a great read-aloud; take it on a trip, and youngsters will happily follow along. Grades 1-3. --Rebecca Jensen --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

"An engaging story of a spunky girl who follows her dreams...Violet is a terrific role model."--School Library Journal"Breen makes good use of both comedy and perspective in action-packed pictures...This will make a great read-aloud; take it on a trip, and youngsters will happily follow along."--Booklist"Violet is charming and fearless."--Children's Literature

I think it's adorable. I know some reviewers dislike that the main character has no friends, but honestly, most scientists, engineers and inventors are introverts and only allow a few people into their circle anyway. I didn't find it inaccurate, being that way myself. Violet gets made fun of by the kids at school for being different. And then she shows them up. Sticking with what you enjoy and ignoring the naysayers is what this story is about. I bought it for my daughter, Violet, mostly because of the title, but I like the story. I think the message is what you make it.

In a nutshell: Violet is a mechanical genius who lives next door to a junkyard and is able to build fully functioning airplanes out of spatulas and row boats. She doesn't have any friends, except her dog Orville, and the kids at school like to bully her. One day she sees an advertisement for an air show that happens to take place on the date of my birthday.

(It's a bit uncanny how these fortuitous details keep showing up in the books we read. Further cementing my favorite color, my birthday| all sorts of things I need to be sure to drum into these kids' malleable little heads.) Spoiler alert: In the end, Violet doesn't get to fly in the air show, but she wins an award and recognition from her entire community by saving a troop of drowning Boy Scouts in her latest homemade jet. This book hits on all sorts of important topics including bullying, engineering, community service, and feasibility. The illustrations are super cute. Kids like pictures of people with bugs in their teeth. It's still unclear to me if the bully twins are also in the boating accident. I'd recommend discussing this with your book club. I find the end of the story takes kind of a strange, unexpected twist that leaves me wondering if it should end differently? Maybe it's just me. Families can talk about: What is bullying and what should you say and

do? Can kids really build real airplanes that fly out of household objects? Even if you think it will fly, is it a good idea to jump off of anything high? What could happen? What is the FAA? And with young listeners, is Violet a piLot or a piRate?

I could not be MORE happy with this book. It is exactly what I had hoped it would be and is cleverly written. A great book encouraging young boys and girls to work hard to pursue their passions, even if it goes against the "norm". Violet is a very sweet, genuine character that will immediately be loved by the reader. Enjoyed reading about a young girl who has a passion for building contraptions and flying machines! Great book for any child with an interest in science, engineering, or aviation.

We absolutely LOVE this book in our house! Violet is sweet, real and relate-able. I love that it gives young girls an opportunity to think about a career path they may not have otherwise. Just be who you are and it's more than enough - better yet, it's incredible!

I was hoping to like this book, but ultimately didn't care for the message it puts forward. The heroine in the book does not care at all that she saved a bunch of scouts from going over the waterfall. She only wants recognition. Once she gets it, she is happy. Is that really what I want my daughter learning?

My 4 year old granddaughter just loved it and wanted me to read it to her over and over again. Violet is a strong, female character who has interests in non-traditional activities. This book shows Violet building airplanes using found junk from her father's junkyard. Violet follows her dreams and in the end is successful.

The illustrations are my favorite part of this book. My daughter is named Violet, so it's perfect for us. The story sends the message that it is ok to be smart and mechanically inclined. In the story, Violet saves an entire Boy Scout Troop.

Awesome story- a great story for all kids. Violet is a good example and the pictures are so fun. My princess-loving daughter loves this book as does my monster truck-loving son. I was looking for some girl power stuff since she tends to lean toward all things pink and princess. I'm going back to buy the hard-cover version and will be giving this as gifts to our friends with kids. A must have for all families!!!

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