

TO READ OR NOT TO READ, THAT IS MY QUESTION

不愛讀書不是你的錯

- * 2019 Golden Tripod Award
- * 2019 Taipei Book Fair Award
- * 2019 Eslite Bookseller Award Author of the Year
- * 2018 Taipei Public Library Pick

"It's not your fault if you don't like to read!" Children's book star Jimmy Liao transforms a collection of famous quotes about books, bookstores, and reading into a story full of both inspiration and sharp, witty criticism.

When a local bookstore faces bankruptcy, the saddened owner asks his son to bring around all his friends who used to hang out there so he can ask why no one buys books anymore. The owner collects dozens of famous quotes about books and reading to remind the children why books are so important, but the children's responses are much more realistic and less predictable than he expected.

Jimmy Liao's latest work is "color commentary" in the literal sense; every famous quote from Kafka, Borges, Woody Allen, and others is accompanied by a brilliant full-page illustration and met with snarky but accurate criticism from the mouths of children. It's a work of tough love for books and bookstores, offered by a devotee of reading; it's also a celebration of the role books can play in our life.

Jimmy Liao 幾米

Jimmy Liao (1958) is an illustrator and picture book writer. After graduating in art from Taiwan's Chinese Culture University, he worked in an advertising company for twelve years, until a battle with leukemia inspired him to start a career as an illustrator. He published work with various newspapers and magazines before producing his first picture books, *Secrets in the Forest* and *A Fish that Smiled at Me*, in 1998. He



Category: Picture Book

Publisher: Locus

Date: 4/2018

Rights contact:

booksfromtaiwan.rights@gmail.com

Pages: 128

Size: 15 x 20 cm

Age: 8+

Rights sold: Italian (Abele Onlu), Thai (a book), Spanish (Barbara Fiore), Simplified Chinese (Tianjin Huawen Tianxia)

went on to achieve fame throughout the Chinese-speaking world, with films, television adaptations, and merchandise. He has won numerous influential awards and has been published in several languages, including a series of collaborations with English-speaking writers, including Amazon Best Book of the Year for Kids winner, *The Champion of Staying Awake* with Sean Taylor. Bold colors and child narrators are signature characteristics of his work, which often hints at a world sometimes sinister, sometimes lonely, but always filled with the deepest of emotions.

