



President Squid

Aaron Reynolds , Sara Varon (Illustrations)

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Join Aaron Reynolds and Sara Varon as they explore the ideal qualities of leaders, diplomats...and giant squid. Squid knows all about being president. It means living in a big house, doing all the talking—oh, and having a tie is crucial. He's all set! In the next election, make a more informed choice. Vote for President Squid!

President Squid Details

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From Reader Review President Squid for online ebook

Lynn says

Funny send-off of pompous clueless politicians. Hmm maybe this is nonfiction ;-) The comparisons are all too real!

Candace says

Squid wants to be president and believes he has the right qualifications for the job. Presidents wear ties, live in the biggest house, are famous, do all the talking, and are the big boss. But Squid soon discovers being president is hard work and decides he wants to be King Squid instead.

Published in 2016, I feel this book was influenced by the 2016 presidential election. Squid is a bright pink color and is large on the pages. The text compliments the pictures. I felt the layout for this book was loud and bossy. I believe it is meant to poke fun at presidential candidates, and it is not to be taken as a serious study on the presidential election. It's meant to be a fun read.

Melki says

In a world where anyone can be president, a hot pink squid finds out that it takes more than a necktie, a big house, fame, a big mouth, and being bossy to do the job . . . in fact . . . it's a lot more work than he ever dreamed. (Who knew running the country could be so complicated?) Perhaps he should set his sights a whole lot higher . . .

**And I'm perfect at being the big boss.
After all, there's nobody bigger than me!**

I'm sure any resemblance to actual persons, living or dead, or actual events is purely coincidental, though this *was* published in 2016. At least Sara Varon didn't make her obnoxious cephalopod an unnatural shade of orange.

Andrea says

I think this will make a great read aloud! Especially for the election season.

Julie Seifert says

Really funny and very relevant to our current election

Jon(athan) Nakapalau says

Squid wants to be president...but for all the wrong reasons. Will he learn his lesson before he is elected? I vote you read this book!

Stacy Fetters says

Received at BEA Chicago.

Was walking by a booth and went to talk to the author since he mentioned my tattoo. So of course we had to have a conversation. He signed my book and he's voting for me. Step off Dump and Killary. There's a new bish in town.

The cover is an adorable eye catcher. It screams hold me, love me and vote for me. I know what I'm doing! And President Squid has it all and he even wears a tie. He's it in my book.

This is so cute and extremely funny. I was shouting, hooting and hollering and laughing. But let me tell you, I'm home alone. So no one can hear this but me. No one has to know though. It's a huge secret between us friends here.

I think kids and adults will fall in love with Squid. It helps keep an open mind during this painful election season.

Anna says

Oh dear, this is fantastic. The humor is that marvelous sort that bridges the gap between child and adult, and I will absolutely delight in reading this satirical masterpiece to my second through fourth graders this lovely election season of madness and mayhem. The expressions of misgiving and exasperation on the other fish in the ocean as Squid extolls his many fine qualities looked strangely familiar. Squid does learn a lesson when he finds out that presidents have to help people (fish), and his conversation with the clam and the sardine it has trapped is utterly hilarious. He does not, however, have a change of heart, and remains an egomaniacal narcissist to the end. Throughout the book, however, are talking points that can bring out what we do and don't want in a leader of our country. I wonder how relevant it will continue to be after the election season is over, and whether it will be as applicable to examining the role of the president in the American government. Time will tell.

Baby Bookworm says

This review was originally written for The Baby Bookworm. Visit us for new picture books reviews daily!

Hello, friends! Today, we read *President Squid*, written by Aaron Reynolds and illustrated by Sara Varon, the tale of a squid who knows what he wants: to be the president of the United States!

Squid is positive that he deserves to be president. He even has a top five list of reasons why, such as 1) he looks great in a tie, and 4) he talks the most out of anybody. But he'll come to find that being a leader is more than living in the biggest house and bossing people around. Will Squid be the greatest president ever, or is he all washed up?

Well, I'll be honest: I am completely conflicted on this book. On the positive side: the dialogue is very silly and funny, and a hoot to read aloud. The illustrations are also a high point, being colorful and fun as well. However, there were some issues. First, Squid learns that helping people is part of being president, but instead of taking this to heart, he decides that he'd rather be king instead ("All the power! None of the work!" he concludes). Taken at face value, that's a pretty awful message. And while the book is more likely intended as satire, well, very young readers probably won't grasp that sort of nuance. And while the text is fun to read (save a cringe-worthy Titanic joke), the length is fine, and JJ enjoyed the voices and art, I was left pretty dissatisfied with it, overall. Maybe this was satire that would have been funnier if it weren't quite so true. Regardless, I can't say I recommend it for baby bookworms, despite its positive qualities. Not one of our favorites, which was a major bummer, as we usually adore Aaron Reynolds' work (you should absolutely check out *Nerdy Birdy* or *Here Comes Destructosaurus!* instead).

Be sure to check out The Baby Bookworm for more reviews!

Amy Soma says

Hit a little too close to home. I laughed out loud...then wondered if I should cry instead.

Sally says

This is troubling in that is actually a fairly trenchant and prescient commentary on the nature of American demagogery.

In a picture book about a neon-pink squid.

Rhonda K says

A funny, laugh-out loud picture book about an ambitious squid who wants all the glory but none of the work. We enjoyed reading this aloud, especially with the snappy dialogue. An appropriate read at this time with the recent election. We paired it with *Madame President* by Lane Smith, another excellent picture book with a presidential theme.

Jasmine says

I feel like this tale of a selfish, egotistical and unqualified squid who wants to be president (and then supreme

king of the universe) would have been more fun before the rise of Trump.

Kendra says

Qualities of a President:

Diplomacy

Accountability

Humility

Responsibility

Initiative

HAS A TIE.

PRESIDENT SQUID is the goofy, bitingly satirical and all-around perfect answer to this year's election season. Brought to scorching pink life by Sara Varon's exuberant illustrations, the bombastic giant cephalopod makes such compelling pitches as "Wearing a tie is VERY presidential. And I look fabulous in a tie." and "I'm great at doing all the talking. I'm doing all the talking right now."

Awesome for kids and adults, and at least five times more educational than the GOP primary debates.

Amanda says

"Wears a tie? Check.

Huge house? Check.

Famous? Check.

Does all the talking? Check-checkity-check-check.

Big and bossy? Check. And check.

I'm PERFECT for this job!"

Pretty sure Donald Trump read this book and came to the same conclusion.
