



## The Patch

*Justina Chen*

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## **The Patch** Justina Chen

The kids at school want to know why Becca is wearing glasses and a patch. Instead of telling them she has amblyopia, Becca leads her friends on imaginative adventures to explain her new fashion accessory. Mitch Vane's illustrations capture the spunky exuberance of this resourceful heroine.

## **The Patch Details**

Date : Published February 1st 2007 by Charlesbridge (first published January 1st 2006)

ISBN : 9781580891707

Author : Justina Chen

Format : Paperback 32 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Fiction

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## From Reader Review The Patch for online ebook

### Christine Turner says

At first upset about having to wear glasses and an eye patch to correct her lazy eye (Amblyopia), five-year-old Becca soon discovers that her new accessories allow her to take on such roles as a ballerina-pirate and a private eye.

Self-acceptance -- Juvenile fiction

Eyeglasses -- Juvenile fiction.

Schools -- Juvenile fiction

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### babyhippoface says

My mother, sister, niece, nephew, and daughter all had to wear an eye patch for amblyopia (lazy eye). I think they would've appreciated this book.

Becca is not happy about having to wear an eye patch. Her older brother starts her off on the right foot, though, when he offers her his prized pirate costume for school "just this once". And from that moment, Becca is determined to turn her patch into an adventure, even if she does hate it. Her attitude is so positive that her friends fall in step alongside her as the patch allows her to become a pirate, a private eye, and even a one-eyed monster.

When the moment comes to explain to her class why she is wearing an eye patch, Becca's answer now seems cool, and one of her friends even wishes she was lucky enough to have a lazy eye, too.

Terrific confidence-builder for kids with amblyopia. Hurray for Justina Chen Headley!

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### Andrea says

This was a good book about needing glasses or an eye patch. Of course it is very specific to those children who are experiencing this... but it also offers some insight to those kids who don't have to experience this but have classmates or friends that will. It gives an opportunity for children and parents to talk about differences and how to deal with people, situations, or appearances that might not be what they see every day.

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### Jeanine says

I liked this book, it reminded me of when I first had to have glasses, but unlike her I was fortunate enough to not have to wear a patch. I love how she is able to think of so many imaginative situations as to why you would wear a patch. It is very cute!

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### **Caitlin says**

A humorous book about a little girl with an eye patch. It's bound to make both kids and adults smile. A good discussion starter about physical differences and bullying.

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### **Crystal says**

A great story about how having the right attitude can get you through what can be, for children, traumatic situations.

Great illustrations helped the story along.

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### **Megan Renner says**

Headley, J. (2006). *The patch*. Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge.

The story is about a little ballerina named Becca that was at the doctors for a check up. They found out that she needs glasses, and needs to wear an eye patch to make one of her eyes as strong as the other one is. She did not like having to wear a patch, let alone glasses. The next morning she did not want to get out of bed until her brother offered to let her borrow his pirate costume (since she was wearing a patch). As soon as he offered that to her, she changed her mind and could not wait to get to school. She decided she would be a ballerina pirate. Once at school her and her friends reenacted pirate type scenes. Then she decided she was a detective and could find anything. Then she decided that she was a monster. Then at the end of the day, everyone in her class wanted to wear an eye patch too. A few weeks later her best friend broke her arm. And then made up stories of why she had a cast. I thought this story was written well. A child that has to wear something because of some kind of disability, I feel would appreciate this story, and could feel like they could relate. I give it 5/5 stars.

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### **Rachel Thomas says**

title: *The Patch* (picture)

author: Justina Chen Headley

Illustrator: Mitch Vane

Publisher: Charlesbridge Publishing

Date of publication: 2006

Summary: This story was cute. It is about a little 5 year old girl who has to go to the eye doctor for a check up because she is going into kindergarten. They find out she has an eye problem and she has to wear a patch on one of her eyes and has to get glasses. She is so scared of what everyone will think of her and is afraid to go to school. Her brother tries to cheer her up by letting her wear his pirate costume and tells her to just play with it. She goes to school but tries to be confident with her eye patch and glasses. She pretends she is a

pirate at school and the other kids accept her with her eye patch and glasses. This book would be good in explaining that it is ok to get glasses and a lot of kids go through that step in life.

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### **Jessica says**

Braden loves the fact that she takes the fact that she has to wear glasses and a patch and turns it into a different type of character.

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### **Ron says**

This book was picked by a 3 yr old and 4 yr old as one of the books that they wanted me to read. I don't usually log these books. However, this one dealt with a girl with had lazy eye and some of the stories she made up about having to wear an eye patch. It was interesting.

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### **Erin ? \*Proud Book Hoarder\* says**

Really cute for young kids. The animations that go with it with the library are fun for kiddies also.

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### **Tatiana says**

Even though she was tired, one of my tutoring students worked hard this morning on plurals. She applied rules (-es when the word ends in ch, s, sh, x, and sometimes z; drop the y and add -ies) and was mimicking the academic vocabulary I used. So I was happy to let her pick out a book for me to read to her, and of course she gravitated toward a story about a ballerina.

I'm getting too picky about children's books. This was a good story about embracing differences, but it wasn't *great*. It didn't 'bring it home,' so to speak. Darling illustrations, though. And it had amazing appeal to a second grade girl. That counts for a lot.

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### **Zoe says**

The Patch features Becca, who has amblyopia, or lazy eye, and must wear an eye patch and glasses. Dismayed and embarrassed, Becca tells adventurous tales to her friends about why she's wearing them instead of the real reason. After reading this book, you'll find eye patches and glasses aren't so bad after all!

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### **Katterley says**

I love this cute story that would help anyone getting a therapy that is physically obvious, or is recovering from something and has to face classmates.

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