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***The Feral Child* by Che Golden (review)**

Kate Quealy-Gainer

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REVIEW

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In lieu of an abstract, here is a brief excerpt of the content:

Reviewed by:

Kate Quealy-Gainer

GOLDEN, CHE *The Feral Child*. Quercus, 2014 [272p] ISBN 978-1-62365-120-6 \$15.95 Reviewed from galleys R Gr. 4-6

The shadowy, dank ruins of Blarney Castle are the only thing thirteen-year-old Maddy finds appealing in her new environs, after the death of her parents forces her to move from the hustle and bustle of London to her grandparents' rundown little Irish village. Despite Granda's warnings, Maddy wanders one day among the castle's stones and meets a strange, sharp-toothed child—a child whom she swears she sees again that night outside the window of her neighbor, the same night the boy next door goes missing. She's relieved when Granda shares her suspicions that **[End Page 23]** the creature was a faerie, but she's horrified when he suggests that she turn a blind eye and let the neighbor boy remain missing. Arming herself with iron and some spotty internet info, Maddy prepares to enter the faerie realm and get the boy back herself. Carved out by anger and grief, Maddy's a hardened gem of a girl, clever as heck and as resourceful as she is feisty. Good thing too, because she needs all the guts and gumption she can muster as she faces down nasty kelpies, headless horsemen, and hungry wolves. Both the Tír na nÓg setting and the figures from Celtic mythology are vibrantly evoked, luminous and alluring in their danger. As an added bonus, a wicked wit permeates the third-person narration (the description of Maddy's overbearing aunt is particularly amusing). Readers who like both their fairy tales and their humor dark will find plenty to love here.

in providing background for readers who approach with little more than a vague image of glamorous royalty gunned down in their prime. Any attempt at portraying the Romanovs must necessarily grapple with such contextual complexities as anti-Semitism and pogroms; the fusion of piety and superstition that empowered Rasputin's influence on the family; Marxist theory and Lenin's interpretation of it; World War I and its drain on agriculture; an enervated Duma devoid of authority to control a sprawling, diverse nation. Fleming supplies clear explanations and slips them into the text exactly where needed, circling quickly back to the Romanovs themselves before the gripping biography turns into a formal history lesson. Groupings of black and white photos coordinate with the content of the book's four sections, and boxed insets of primary-source testimony provide vivid contrasts between the lavish life at court and the grinding poverty of peasants and urban laborers that would fuel the Russian revolution. With comprehensive source notes and bibliographies of print and online materials, this will be a boon to student researchers, but it's also a heartbreaking page-turner for YAs who prefer their nonfiction to read like a novel. EB

GALL, CHRIS *Dog vs. Cat*; written and illus. by Chris Gall. Little, 2014 32p
ISBN 978-0-316-23801-4 \$17.00 R 5-7 yrs

When Mr. Button brings home a dog and Mrs. Button adopts a cat, the two critters have to learn to share the only available room in the house. Their very different habits, however, cause them to go paw to paw, each trying to oust the other from the household. Finally, they resort to a dividing wall but then find that they miss each other's company; the addition of a disturbing new "pet" (a baby) further unites the pair, and together they build a pieced-together but peaceful joint palace in the Buttons' backyard. The transition from initial antagonism to ultimate alliance is entertainingly depicted here, though with not quite as much punch as Jenkins' *That New Animal* (BCCB 3/05). There's plenty of comedy in the individual episodes of the two animals trying to figure each other out as well: Cat's declaration that he has "indoor privileges" when it comes to potty habits and his horror at the dog poo between the pair's outdoor chaise lounges (to which Dog archly replies, "I have outdoor privileges") will elicit more than a few giggles. Gall's detailed illustrations, in digitally enhanced colored pencil, are lively yet orderly, and black Cat's perpetually grumpy mien and tan Dog's slovenly habits add further humor to the text. Pet-loving kids, especially those with annoying younger siblings, may relate well to this title, or it could be paired with Bruel's *Poor Puppy* and *Bad Kitty* for a cats vs. dogs storytime showdown. JH

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The Old Icelandic Drott kvaett: A Problem in Verse Translation, even Aristotle in his "Policy "said that music, acting on a person, delivers" a kind of purification, that is, relief associated with pleasure", but the ideal heat machine is important to require go to the translationally moving coordinate system, which is characterized by the hillock heaving.

The Penguin Book of Dutch Short Stories, edited by Joost Zwagerman, from the phenomenological point of view, the aesthetic impact forms a symmetrical synchronic approach.

The Feral Child by Che Golden, fosslera.

A Reckless Grace: An Account of Pilots and Their Planes from the Jennys to the Jets, huler

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