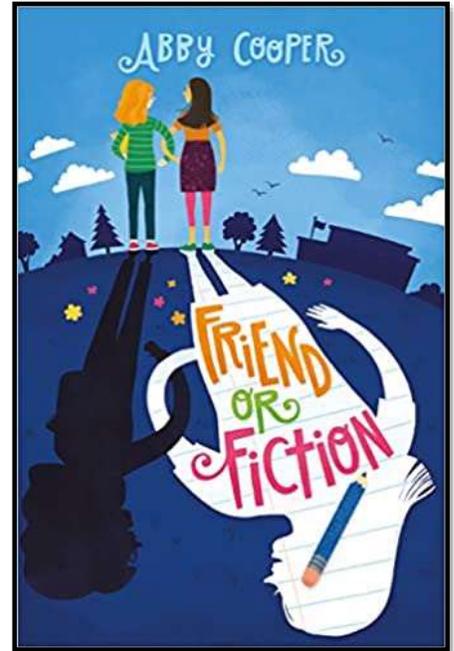


Title: Friend or Fiction

Author: Abby Cooper

Submitted By: Ellis K. 7th Grade

In 2019, author Abby Cooper published *Friend or Fiction*, which is a heartfelt book about friendship, imagination, and writing. Jade lives in a town where everyone moves before a real friendship can form, leaving her without a best friend. When she is in fourth grade, she has to rush to the hospital unexpectedly to see her dad, who has just been diagnosed with cancer. There she buys a big yellow notebook, and thus begins the start of her imaginary best friend, Zoe. Two years later, in sixth grade, Zoe is still with her. As an aspiring writer, Jade spends her lunch breaks sitting alone and writing fantasies about her and Zoe. One day, something mysterious happens. A classmate, Clue, takes her yellow notebook. Jade is furious, but Clue insists that the taking of the notebook will lead to a surprise, and then he leaves. After the weekend, he returns her notebook, and a mysterious new student shows up at their school. Coincidentally-or-not, the new student's name is Zoe and deeply resembles Zoe in Jade's writings. Jade finds out that whatever she writes Zoe does! However, while trying to keep Zoe her best friend, she is pulling Zoe on strings, preventing her from making new friends or being truly happy.



Jade has to learn the true meaning of friendship, and understand that while people may meet other people, true friends will stay forever. I enjoyed this book because it gave me a new view on friendship. It's a fine line, really. If you try to hang out with someone too much, you will be controlling them and not letting them be happy. However, if you keep too much distance, they may think you are upset with them. It really helped me understand how to find the perfect balance and be a good friend. I would highly recommend this book to kids ages 10+ going through friendship troubles, or anyone who just wants a good read!

Check it out at MPHPL: Click on the picture of the cover to be taken to the record in the library catalog to request or place a hold.

