Sixth grade is coming to an end, and so is life as Macy McMillan knows it. Already a "For Sale" sign mars the front lawn of her beloved house. Soon her mother will upend their perfect little family, adding a stepfather and six-year-old twin stepsisters. To add insult to injury, what is Macy’s final sixth-grade assignment? A genealogy project. Well, she’ll put it off - just like those wedding centerpieces she’s supposed to be making. Just when Macy’s mother ought to be understanding, she sends Macy next door to help eighty-six-year-old Iris Gillan, who is also getting ready to move—in her case into an assisted living facility. Iris can’t pack a single box on her own and, worse, she doesn’t know sign language. How is Macy supposed to understand her? But Iris has stories to tell, and she isn’t going to let Macy’s deafness stop her. Soon, through notes and books and cookies, a bond grows between them. And this friendship, odd and unexpected, may be just what Macy needs to face the changes in her life.

Grade Level
3-5

Lexile Measure
870L

Diversity Topics
Family Relationships; Health & Disability; Divorce; Single parent; Step parent; Physical disability; single mother; divorced parents; step father; step family; step siblings; step
Just when Macy’s mother ought to be understanding, she sends Macy next door to help eighty-six-year-old Iris Gillan, who is also getting ready to move—in her case into an assisted living facility. Iris can’t pack a single box on her own and, worse, she doesn’t know sign language. How is Macy supposed to understand her? But Iris has stories to tell, and she isn’t going to let Macy’s deafness stop her. Soon, through notes and books and cookies, a Year: 2020. Macy McMillan and the rainbow goddess. Canada: Pajama Press. Miller, D. (2009). Sweet novel told in verse, “Macy McMillan and the Rainbow Goddess” is a delightful middle grade novel. Macy has a lot going on in her life—her mother is about to marry; they are moving; she’s been volunteered to help the elderly lady next door; she had a fight with her best friend However, her plucky spirit and good heart help her see the good in others and come around to change. Additionally, Macy lost her hearing at the age of four and, while on one hand I appreciate the diverse character Sweet novel told in verse, “Macy McMillan and the Rainbow Goddess” is a de...