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## Pacific Book Review

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### Book Title

**Title:** Will My Haircut Hurt?

**Author:** Martha Goldner

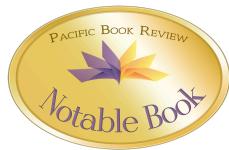
**Publisher:** XlibrisUS

**ISBN:** 979-8-3694-2044-7

**Pages:** 36

**Genre:** Illustrated Children's Book / Humor

**Reviewer:** Beth Adams



## Pacific Book Review

First of all, when I saw this book's title, *Will My Haircut Hurt?* I had to chuckle! What a funny title! It reminded me of a book I reviewed a short while ago about *Blue Bubble*

*Gum*, and then I noticed it was from the same author, Martha Goldner. (Martha, you rock!)

Each page is themed with a child's innate fear of having parts of their body amputated – yes, hair in this case. After all, when you think of it, why wouldn't hair have nerves and cause pain when being cut? Teeth have nerves – I still haven't seen the logic of that detail of the human body. Aside from fingernails and toenails, everything can be felt when cut, broken or scratched. But hair – wow!

For example, will hair bleed when cut? Now that's a logical deduction, after all it comes out of one's body which bleeds profusely when cut. Then the book goes on building on the absurd humor; will I need to put bandaids on my scalp? If so, how will it look - of course there is a silly illustration of a head covered with bandaids. Then the humor doesn't let up and asks - will the bandaids hurt when they are pulled off? Again, another silly illustration.

Martha Goldner goes off on tangents showing examples of other injuries, such as a bee sting and a scraped knee. The bee sting could be like 100s of times the sensation of each hair being cut, and as for the scraped knee, it turned black-and-blue while healing. Will my head turn black-and-blue the story's narrator asks. Again, silly fanciful pictures drill in this comic scenario.

So, what's the alternative to not cutting your hair? Growing it, of course. The accompanying picture shows a mop of hair covering the face of a student when the teacher cannot tell who it is. Or wear a hat, and wearing a hat indoors isn't cool.

What we have here is a humorous book with totally funny text and pictures making the paging of this creative book an event for parents and children to enjoy time and time again. The skillful humor builds on prior examples of absurdity which will cause a chuckle to morph into a laugh then into an uncontrollable silly laughing experience.

This reviewer cannot give *Will My Haircut Hurt?* a higher recommendation, and frankly I can't wait to see what next comes from Martha Goldner's whimsically creative mind. The author Martha Goldner successfully transforms a common childhood worry into an engaging and educational story, making this book a must-read for parents, and little ones facing their first haircut.

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