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Pom and Pim by Lena and Olof Landstrom

Publisher: Gecko Press

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Pom is a small boy with a 'look on the bright side of life' attitude. He sets off on an outing with his soft toy, Pim. It's warm and the sun is shining. What luck!

Then the little fellow trips and falls. He bumps his nose. Bad luck!

But, as a result of the nasty fall, Pom finds some money and is happy again. What luck! Pom buys an ice cream and shares it with Pim.

A realistic, engaging chain of events follows. Each turn of the page leads to another incident of the type small children experience every day. There are sore stomachs, balloons, puddles, anticipation and joy in the minutiae of life.

Cream pages and subtle colours give a soft focus for the adventures of the sweet-faced boy. He's a kind-hearted child who shares his pleasures with his companion, Pim. Pom's knitted jacket, the hand-made soft toy, the wooden bed and floors all give a timeless feel to this charming picture book.

Young readers will delight in recognising the ups-and-downs of their own lives, and the instant sadness or joy each experience brings. Pom's positive outlook shows resilience and an eagerness to embrace the quirks of daily life.

**Reviewed by children's book author
Jean Bennett**

