



A Reward for Josefina

Valerie Tripp , Jean-Paul Tibbles (Illustrator) , Susan McAliley (Illustrator)

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Few children's book series can match the runaway success of the American Girls Short Stories. In one year we've sold nearly 2 million copies of these perfectly pocket-sized (4 1/2" x 6") hardcover books featuring the adventures of the American Girls. Full-color illustrations, a historical picture essay, and directions for a craft project in every book make these an incredible value at just \$3.95 each.

A Reward for Josefina Details

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Author : Valerie Tripp , Jean-Paul Tibbles (Illustrator) , Susan McAliley (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review A Reward for Josefina for online ebook

Meghan says

It would have made more sense for Ana to stay with the children instead of Josefina. The pastel recipe looks good but pine nuts are expensive so they don't quite make sense for a short story.

MJ says

We need to write a letter to the author about how pleased we were to have Ana nursing her baby who was over a year old.

Kelly says

A nice quick story. I love how the books let you learn all different small parts of life. I really want to try piñon nuts now.

Emily says

Cute story but not really any conflict.

Kristine Hansen says

Josefina uses her head to win a prize for collecting the most pinon nuts. A cute story in the Josefina series.

Kaetlyn says

I read this book.

I like that Josefina and Juan went and got some pine nuts from trees and got the most nuts but didn't get the prize because a chipmunk.

I don't like that one of Ana's boys woke up and to be rocked to sleep.

Miss Clark says

Read in year of publication - short story

Jordanna says

This is a short story about one of the American Girls named Josefina. She wants to try to get the most pinon nuts like everyone else but she has to stay behind and take care of her nephew. Together they collect pinon nuts. They take a squirrel's nuts and he takes the reward for the person who collects the most nuts. They collect the most nuts but they don't get the reward but Josefina gets something she thinks is even better.

Sarah Crawford says

In this little book Josefina wants to get the attention and praise of Tia Dolores. To do so she wants to take part in the gathering of pinon nuts, but her father wants her to stay back and watch their lunch and her nephew.

She proves she's quick-witted, though, when a chance to gather nuts presents itself despite not being able to go with the others. It's a cute story and has a historical section that has information about the food-gathering activities of the people of the times.

K says

Josephina shows off her cleverness in this short story by raiding a squirrel's hoard of pinon nuts in order to collect more nuts than her father and sisters so that she can impress Tia Dolores with her usefulness. The pastry recipe at the end sounds delicious, though I know I'll never actually make it, and the historical note is as fascinating as ever. I like Josephina's sisters, and would have liked to see more of them, though with only 29 small pages and large text, I understand why their appearances had to be brief. I do wonder where Ana's husband was though. Since gathering pinon nuts is so important to the rancho, I would have expected everyone to go along and help out. I also liked that in her attempt to win her Papa's prize, Josephina let the prize get stolen by a squirrel – only to steal from the squirrel in return. But of course, Tia Dolores's regard is better than some sugar treat.

Marya says

Man, I thought I'd never have to discuss the habits of squirrels THAT much.

Miri says

The Montoya's are going out to collect pinon nuts, a delicious treat to enjoy and sell, Josefina wants to join in the collecting and win the prize her father has offered to whoever can collect the most nuts, but she must stay with her nephew and watch the camp. Can Josefina find a way to take care of her duty and also help in collecting the nuts?

In each of these American girl short story books you get a looking back section with fun historical information and craft, recipe, game or dance to learn that is from the time the story is set in. In this book

there is a recipe for a Pastel, or a pinon nut pie.

Amara Tanith says

Well, this was disappointing. Josefina and Juan have been left behind to guard the family's camp while the other members hunt for piñon nuts, but Josefina had wanted to gather the most piñon nuts so she could win her father's prize and impress her Aunt Dolores. So, as is reasonable, they start searching the nearby piñon trees for nuts; Josefina gets inventive and jumps up and down on the tree branches to shake the nuts loose for her toddler-age nephew to gather off the ground. So far, it's a great story about resourcefulness.

Then the squirrel shows up, and the whole story goes downhill. After they chase it away from their lunch, Josefina spots the squirrel's home; like an respectable squirrel, this one has planned for the winter and shoved all the nuts s/he could gather in his hole-in-a-tree home. And Josefina steals every last one.

Do you know how long it took that squirrel to get those nuts? Do you know how many he'll be able to get before winter now? None, because the Montoyas have picked the area clean. This squirrel is going to starve to death during the winter, all because of Josefina.

So when Papá and Dolores learn how Josefina got the nuts, I expected her to be reprimanded. They own a rancho, so they have plenty of food--these nuts are really just a delicacy. To the squirrel, they're life or death. I assumed the adults would explain that to their wayward ten-year-old.

But no. Of course not. Tía Dolores smiles when she learns how Josefina obtained (read: stole) the nuts; she's proud, she says. And it's okay, Josefina thinks, because while she got the squirrel's nuts, the squirrel took the piloncillo (a little cone of hard brown sugar). How utterly fair! The squirrel gets some sugar, and you get the food he relied on to survive the winter! You get to snack on some roasted nuts, and he gets to... starve to death?

So yeah, great moral. *Really* disappointed with this one.

Karol says

Josephina is one of my most favorite American Girls. She displays initiative and intelligence as she works to show her family how useful and grown she has become.
