



## What Do You Do With a Problem?

By Kobi Yamada

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**What Do You Do With a Problem?** By Kobi Yamada

**A #1 New York Times Best Seller, *What Do You Do With a Problem?* is a story for anyone, at any age.**

From the same author and illustrator as the #1 nationally best-selling *What Do You Do With an Idea?* comes a new book to encourage you to look closely at problems and discover the possibilities they can hold.

This is the story of a persistent problem and the child who isn't so sure what to make of it. The longer the problem is avoided, the bigger it seems to get. But when the child finally musters up the courage to face it, the problem turns out to be something quite different than it appeared.

**Praise for *What Do You Do With a Problem?***

- Gold medal winner of the Moonbeam Children's Book Award
- Gold medal winner of the Mom's Choice Award
- In a wonderful balance of text and pictures, the team responsible for *What Do You Do With an Idea* (2014) returns with another book inspiring children to feel good about themselves. —**Publishers Weekly**
- ...Yamada's inspirational prose and the romance of Besom's spreads make an impact. —**Kirkus Reviews**

*What Do You Do With a Problem?* is a story for anyone, at any age, who has ever had a problem that they wished would go away. It's a story to inspire you to look closely at that problem and to find out why it's here. Because you might discover something amazing about your problem... and yourself.



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## What Do You Do With a Problem? By Kobi Yamada Bibliography

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

A child struggles with the worry and anxiety that come with an unexpected problem. In a wonderful balance of text and pictures, the team responsible for *What Do You Do With an Idea* (2014) returns with another book inspiring children to feel good about themselves. A child frets about a problem that won't go away. "I wished it would just disappear. I tried everything I could to hide from it. I even found ways to disguise myself. But it still found me." The spare, direct narrative is accompanied by soft gray illustrations in pencil and watercolor. The sepia-toned figure of the child is set apart from the background and surrounded by lots of white space, visually isolating the problem, which is depicted as a purple storm cloud looming overhead. Color is added bit by bit as the storm cloud grows and its color becomes more saturated. With a backpack and umbrella, the child tries to escape the problem while the storm swirls, awash with compass points scattered across the pages. The pages brighten into splashes of yellow as the child decides to tackle the problem head-on and finds that it holds promise for unlooked-for opportunity. A straightforward, effective approach to helping children cope with one of life's commonplace yet emotionally fraught situations, this belongs on the shelf alongside Molly Bang's *Sophie* books. (Picture book. 4-7) --Kirkus Reviews

Yamada and Besom follow *What Do You Do with an Idea?* with the story of a boy plagued by a problem, which Besom imagines as a violet cloud hanging over the boy's head. "I didn't want it. I didn't ask for it. I really didn't like having a problem, but it was there. The boy wanders through a medievalesque town, accompanied by sleek, silvery flying fish that dart about like swallows. Soon the cloud grows into a storm. "The more I avoided my problem, the more I saw it everywhere." At last the boy has an epiphany. Armed with goggles, his hair thrown back by the force of the storm's energy, he reaches into the heart of the cloud and finds light. "I discovered it had something beautiful inside. My problem held an opportunity!" Though some younger readers may find the story overly vague it's easy to imagine questions like What is his problem? and What is he talking about? popping up Yamada's inspirational prose and the romance of Besom's spreads make an impact. Ages 5-8. --Publishers Weekly

#### About the Author

Kobi Yamada is the creator of many inspiring gift books and ideas as well as the president of Compendium, a company of amazing people doing amazing things. He happily lives with the love of his life and their two super fun kids in the land of flying salmon where he gets to believe in his ideas all day long. He thinks he just might be the luckiest person on the planet.

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reserve. Your knowledge can inspire the mediocre, make them reading a publication.

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