



November 3, 2023

We received your Request for Reconsideration regarding the book *And Tango Makes Three* by Justin Richardson. We have owned this title since July 2015, and it has been checked out 50+ times. We reviewed it and have decided to retain it in the Children's Picture Book section.

According to our book vendor, this item's intended audience is children grades 1-2, ages 6-7. The book jacket indicates this book is recommended for ages 4-8 and the author's note explains this book is based on a true story. This title was well-reviewed by publications like *Publishers Weekly*, *Kirkus Reviews*, and *School Library Journal* (excerpts below).

Some individuals may find the content of this book inappropriate for their children, but there are others who are interested in the topic or find it relevant. Children's books can provide an opportunity for parents to discuss ideas and society in the way that works best for their families. The Christian County Library makes every effort to provide a broad selection of materials to meet the needs of diverse audiences, and we rely on parents and guardians to determine what is or is not suitable for their own households.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Renee Brumett, Executive Director
Christian County Library

Review Excerpts:

School Library Journal Reviews, July 2005

This tale based on a true story about a charming penguin family living in New York City's Central Park Zoo will capture the hearts of penguin lovers everywhere... Done in soft watercolors, the illustrations set the tone for this uplifting story, and readers will find it hard to resist the penguins' comical expressions. The well-designed pages perfectly marry words and pictures, allowing readers to savor each illustration. An author's note provides more information about Roy, Silo, Tango, and other chinstrap penguins. This joyful story about the meaning of family is a must for any library.

Library Media Connection Reviews, January 2006

Based on a true story, this book tells about Silo and Roy, two male chinstrap penguins who befriend each other in the Central Park Zoo and do everything together that other penguin "couples" do, except have baby penguins. Until one day, the penguin keeper



gives them an egg from a penguin couple that couldn't raise it themselves, which Silo and Roy lovingly hatch and raise on their own. Throughout the book, families-both human and animal-are mentioned doing similar things despite their superficial differences. Depending on your community, you may want to brace yourself for some objections, but what makes this story all the better is the fact that it is true. As the author notes, Roy and Silo did adopt Tango and can still be seen at the zoo playing together in the penguin tank. Attractive watercolor illustrations complement the text and playfully show the penguin couple making a nest, trying to hatch a rock, and raising their family together. Overall this is a straightforward story without being overtly about homosexuality, but rather focusing on the familial relationship of Roy and Silo and acceptance of others' differences.