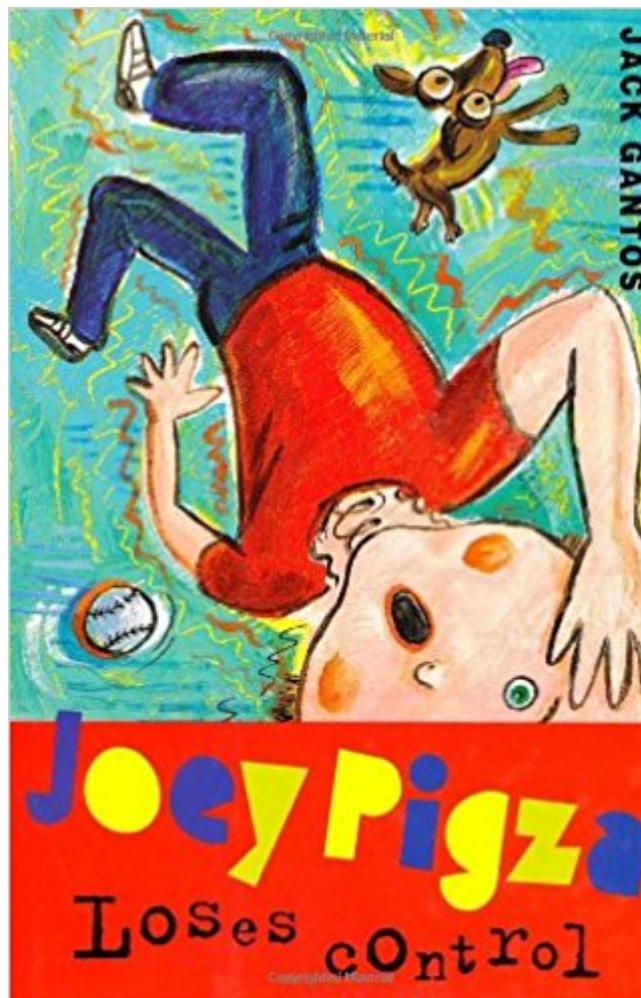


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# Joey Pigza Loses Control



## Synopsis

The sequel to Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key, a National Book Award Finalist. When Joey Pigza meets his dad for the first time in years, he meets a grown-up version of his old out-of-control self. Carter Pigza is as wired as Joey used to be -- before his stint in special ed, and before he got his new meds. Joey's mom reluctantly agrees that he can stay with his dad for a summer visit, which sends Joey racing with sky-high hopes that he and Carter can finally get to know each other. But as the weeks whirl by, Carter has bigger plans in mind. He decides that just as he has pulled himself up by his own bootstraps, Joey can do the same and become as normal as any kid, without the help of a doctor's prescription. Carter believes Joey can do it and Joey wants to believe him more than anything in the world. Here is the continuation of the acclaimed Joey Pigza story, affirming not only that Joey Pigza is a true original but that it runs in the family. This title has Common Core connections. Joey Pigza Loses Control is a 2000 New York Times Book Review Notable Children's Book of the Year and a 2001 Newbery Honor Book.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 800L (What's this?)

Series: Joey Pigza (Book 2)

Hardcover: 208 pages

Publisher: Farrar, Straus and Giroux (BYR) (September 22, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0439338743

ISBN-13: 978-0374399894

ASIN: 0374399891

Product Dimensions: 6.4 x 0.8 x 8.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 159 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #947,548 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #116 in [Books > Children's](#)

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[Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Baseball](#)

Age Range: 10 - 14 years

Grade Level: 5 - 9

## Customer Reviews

The loveable, disaster-prone hero of *Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key* is back, this time in charge of his attention deficit disorder and ready to greet the world as a normal kid--with the help of his new and improved meds, of course. Now that Joey has a handle on his actions, he feels prepared to face the most mysterious member of his family--his estranged father, Carter Pigza. He convinces his skeptical mom to let him spend part of his summer vacation getting to know his dad again. The only problem is that Joey's dad is just as wired as Joey used to be: "I looked over at his mouth, which never seemed to close--not even the lips touched together--and it made me dizzy to listen to him." Carter believes that Joey can kick his ADD the way he himself kicked alcoholism--cold turkey. But when Carter flushes his meds, Joey has to decide if being friends with his dad is worth losing his hard-won self-control. "That old Joey was coming to get me and I couldn't do anything about it... I closed my eyes and told myself to sleep while I could." Jack Gantos's second book about Joey Pigza is just as delightful and soulful as his first. Joey's attempts to keep the fragile peace in his life intact are touching, and his intense longing to just be normal will mirror the feelings of most preteens, whether they have ADD or not. Joey Pigza may sometimes lose control, but he never loses his heart. This is an exceptional sequel. (Ages 10 and older) --Jennifer Hubert

First introduced in *Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key*, Gantos's hyperactive hero Joey Pigza has not lost any of his liveliness, but after undergoing therapy and a stint in special ed., he now can exercise a reasonable amount of self-control provided he takes his meds. His mother has reluctantly agreed to let him spend the summer three hours from home with his father, an alcoholic who, so he claims, has taken steps to turn his life around. Readers will sight trouble ahead long before Joey's optimistic perception of his father grows blurry. Mr. Pigza is at least as "wired" as the old Joey, and when he resorts to his drinking habits and becomes belligerent, Joey (who still wants to win his father's favor) feels scared. Then Mr. Pigza, telling Joey his medicine patches are a "crutch" that Joey doesn't need, summarily flushes them down the toilet: "You are liberated... You are your own man, in control of your own life," he announces. Joey is torn between wanting to call his mom immediately and sticking with his father. "Even though I knew he was wrong," Joey says, "he was my dad, and I wanted him to be right." Like its predecessor, this high-voltage, honest novel mixes humor, pain, fear and courage with deceptive ease. Struggling to please everyone even as he sees himself hurtling toward disaster, Joey emerges as a sympathetic hero, and his heart of gold never loses its shine. Ages 10-up. (Sept.) Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

I read several Joey Pigza books years ago, and loved them all. This year my granddaughters are

reading them, and I am happy to say they appreciate them as well. Not only do they like the character, they have a better understanding of attention deficit disorder. By extension they will understand other people with challenges not related to intelligence. I hope they see that learning disabilities only happen to otherwise very intelligent people.

This book is so funny and cool! It is about a boy who went to live with his dad. He has to wear a patch because he gets hyper. His dad takes the patches and flushes them down the toilet. Joey gets hyper. I liked this book.

Awesome book. This is great for children who have ADD or ADHD I have complete series which takes Joey through many different situations

I love this book because I just love it thank you for making this book and putting it on

My 8 and 12 year old girls love this book. They love the whole Pigza series. And if you're a parent reading this aloud, you'll be entertained as well. Funny, smart, and fresh.

This is a great book by Jack Gantos. For people that read the first won't have loved it and for the people that haven't read this book read the first one. Joey was pretty protective of the dog and making sure his dad didn't do the wrong thing. Read the first one and this one plus the next two which I here are great so start reading

My son loves these books

Son gives a 4 star and says he enjoyed it

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