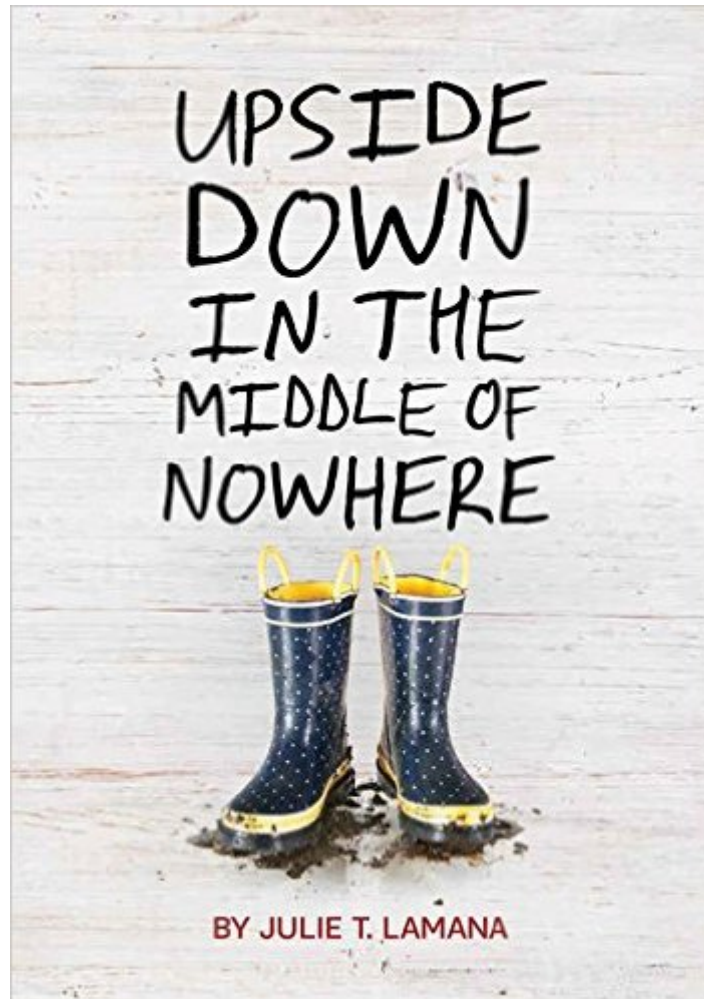


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# Upside Down In The Middle Of Nowhere



## Synopsis

Armani Curtis can think about only one thing: her tenth birthday. She's having a party, her mama is making a big cake, and she has a good feeling about a certain wrapped box. Turning ten years old is a big deal to Armani. It means she's older, wiser, more responsible. But when Hurricane Katrina hits the Lower Nines of New Orleans and tears her world apart, Armani realizes that being ten means being brave, watching loved ones die, and mustering all her strength to help her family weather the storm. A gripping story of courage and survival, *Upside Down in the Middle of Nowhere* celebrates the power of hope and love in the face of the unthinkable.

## Book Information

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Product Dimensions: 5.6 x 0.8 x 8.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (42 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #29,036 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #170 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States](#) #387 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Emotions & Feelings](#) #1675 in [Books > Children's Books > Action & Adventure](#)

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Armani is excited to celebrate her 10th birthday with her family and close friends from the Ninth Ward in New Orleans. But as a hurricane named Katrina closes in on the city, it threatens to blow her party away before it even arrives. She's happy that her family decides to stay put, and she's thrilled that one of the presents she receives is a special locket her grandma passes down to her. But the next day a wall of water washes away all her happiness and everything comforting and familiar. Before her ordeal is over, Armani will have matured well beyond her years. *Upside Down in the Middle of Nowhere* by Julie T. Lamana tells the story of Ninth Ward life through the eyes of the Curtis family, with its hard working parents, five children and a grandma that helps

provide care for the whole clan. Armani's life before Katrina included school, squabbles with her older brother and younger sister, and lots of interaction with extended family. She knew where she fit into the neighborhood and where everyone else did too. Her biggest desires were to get donuts for breakfast and a puppy for her birthday. The flood after the storm changed all that. As everything she knows gets turned upside down, Armani faces the death of loved ones, chaos in the city, and uncertainty about the future. Facing losses that would break even adults, Armani changes from a carefree child to someone who knows that family is the most important connection in a crisis, and sometimes family is forged from the people you would least expect. The publisher recommends *Upside Down in the Middle of Nowhere* for ages 8 to 12.

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