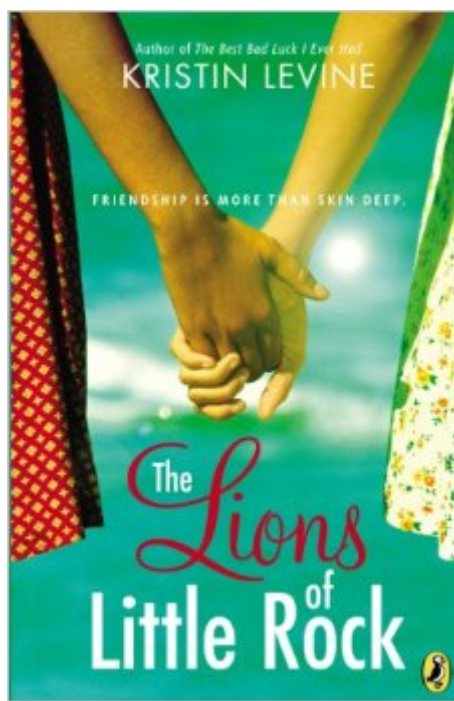


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# The Lions Of Little Rock



## Synopsis

"Satisfying, gratifying, touching, weighty" this authentic piece of work has got soul." The New York Times Book Review  
As twelve-year-old Marlee starts middle school in 1958 Little Rock, it feels like her whole world is falling apart. Until she meets Liz, the new girl at school. Liz is everything Marlee wishes she could be: she's brave, brash and always knows the right thing to say. But when Liz leaves school without even a good-bye, the rumor is that Liz was caught passing for white. Marlee decides that doesn't matter. She just wants her friend back. And to stay friends, Marlee and Liz are even willing to take on segregation and the dangers their friendship could bring to both their families. Winner of the New-York Historical Society Children's History Book Prize A New York Times Book Review Editor's Choice

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0630 (What's this?)

Paperback: 320 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books; Reprint edition (January 10, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0142424358

ISBN-13: 978-0142424353

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.8 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars See all reviews (147 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #10,900 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #21 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States > 1900s #21 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Prejudice & Racism #406 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Friendship

Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 and up

## Customer Reviews

Sometimes I think I'm too nice of a book reviewer (read: person). I am guilty-as-charged when finding the best in books (and people), even when they may be sub-par in many respects. I don't believe this to be the case here, though, as I review *The Lions of Little Rock* by Kristin Levine. Levine has built a solid character in twelve-year-old Marlee and the little town that could-not, Little Rock, Arkansas. It's 1958 and Little Rock is still rampant with segregation--even the slightest

murmurs of integration are grounds for upheaval. Marlee's character doesn't seem so solid at first, at least socially--she has but one person outside of her family that she will talk to. It's not that Marlee can't talk, is diseased, or incensed with madness. She chooses not to talk. For one, she doesn't like her voice, but it's also clear from that start that she hasn't yet found her voice. Enter Liz, the new girl at school. Liz is everything Marlee wishes she was: boisterous, opinionated, confident. Instead Marlee chooses to recite prime numbers and times tables in her head rather than saying what's on her mind. No sooner does Liz's warmth and friendship encourage Marlee to come out of her shell, Liz vanishes from school. Rumor has it that Liz is really a colored girl who was trying to pass as white. Regardless of race, Marlee knows that she had found a true friend. Nothing, not even segregation laws and the threat of violence, can keep her from her friend. Levine has blended a great story of friendship and bridging the gap between childhood and tween-dom with an historical period in America that deserves more attention. She focuses on the barriers to education that all families faced in Little Rock, regardless of race.

Required Summer Reading = Unhappy Tween Boy  
My poor boy. Apparently, the school is ruining his summer! Did you know they are intentionally STEALING his vacation time away from him?? Oh, the drama...  
Post-meltdown, I went in my closet and had a little laugh, composed myself, and then sat down and made a plan. I've always made an effort to read along with my boy and summertime is no exception. So we went on a book hunt (with a frappuccino stop of course) and printed out all the assignments the school organized for each book...which was a lot I have to admit. With books in hand, and audio on standby to keep us on task, we mapped out which chapters would be read on which days. With 57 chapters, it evened out to approximately ten chapters a day (they're fairly brief chapters). So this is how it went...  
Day 1: Chapters 1-9  
Day 2: Chapters 10-19  
Everything going as planned! Yay!  
Day 3: Chapters 20-39  
I stopped him at chapter 30 but he wanted to keep reading. Okaaaaay...  
Day 4: Chapters 40-57  
Again, I stopped him at 50...but he didn't want to stop.  
Basically, this is my review. An incoming sixth grader came to this required book with a negative outlook. He had a week to finish it and he finished it in four days. Some may say he just wanted to get it over with, and that may be true, but I was there. His gasps, smiles, and concerned frowns spoke for themselves. He's working on his assignments as I write this with no complaints. It's like he actually liked the book and doesn't mind reflecting on it...it's my turn to gasp.  
My favorite quote: "We tell kids that sometimes. We pretend the world is straightforward, simple, easy. You do this, you get that."

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The Lions of Little Rock A Little Books Boxed Set Featuring Little Pea, Little Hoot, Little Oink The

Little Books of Champagne, Chocolate, and Roses: The Little Book of Champagne/The Little Book of Chocolate/The Little Book of Roses Lions of Kandahar: The Story of a Fight Against All Odds 2017 Vintage Penn State Nittany Lions Football Calendar Lions at Lunchtime (Magic Tree House, No. 11) National Geographic Readers: Lions How to Draw Cartoon Cats, Kittens, Lions and Tigers Get the Scoop on Animal Poop: From Lions to Tapeworms: 251 Cool Facts about Scat, Frass, Dung, and More! The Gate of Heaven (Lions of Judah Series #3) Heart of a Lion (Lions of Judah Series #1) By Way of the Wilderness (Lions of Judah Series #5) Till Shiloh Comes (Lions of Judah Series #4) Saving the White Lions: One Woman's Battle for Africa's Most Sacred Animal When Mountain Lions Are Neighbors: People and Wildlife Working It Out in California Mystery of the White Lions: Children of the Sun God Cats & Lions Lion Coloring Book For Adults: An Adult Coloring Book Of 40 Lions in a Range of Styles and Ornate Patterns (Animal Coloring Books for Adults) (Volume 5) The Last Lions Lions in the Balance: Man-Eaters, Manes, and Men with Guns

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