

Regards to the Man in the Moon

Ezra Jack Keats

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Louie's unhappy because the other kids call his father "the junkman." But his father knows that it's not just junk: "All a person needs is some imagination! And a little of that stuff can take you right out of this world!" So Louie builds the "Imagination I," A spaceship fueled entirely by imagination - and blasts off into an adventure that will dazzle children and adults alike.

Regards to the Man in the Moon Details


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Author : Ezra Jack Keats

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From Reader Review *Regards to the Man in the Moon* for online ebook

Randi Triantafillou says

Regards to the Man in the Moon, Is taking children to a new level of using their imagination and relating it to the Man in the Moon. The illustrations in the text help illustrate the content and help keep the excitement of the reader as they use their imagination. This is a fun/ adventurous story to read to children.

Randi T (3703)

Abby Spiel says

Regards to the Man in the Moon is a book all about imagination! Kids at school make fun of Louie and call him a Junkman, but Louie's father encourages him that the things in the junkyard aren't junk. He finds that he can really let his imagination run wild with his father and Louie builds a space ship and puts up a tarp with a picture of space and tells the kids from school that he is off to the moon! They don't believe him till little Susie joins Louie on his adventure and the kids start to see that using your imagination is fun and they soon join in too!

I enjoyed this book because it allows kids to relate through their previous experiences with using their imagination. I know I used to play the way Louie and Susie did, simply by playing along with other's ideas and imaginations and those are some of my best memories as a kid. I think it is very important for children between the ages of 4-7 to know that using your imagination is still fun and not an "uncool" thing to do, and I think this book does a good job of showing that or paints a different perspective in a child's mind.

The drawings in *Regards to the Man in the Moon* were very creative and detailed. I thought they weren't perfectly with the text and displayed exactly what you would think while reading the text. The text was also very descriptive and painted a good picture without the illustrations.

Felicia says

Regards to the Man in the Moon is the imaginative adventure amongst friends who turn other peoples' junk into dream machines.

The front cover features two children inside what looks to be an enlarged teapot floating in a dark black sky. The vector line from the female child shows her looking directly at the moon, while the male child seems to be looking off the page. The image continues onto the back cover where we have a clear picture of where the male child was looking. The vector lines from him suggest that he is looking back toward Earth. When removing the book jacket, the front and back covers reveal the same image. Exploring the text further, the reader notices that the endpapers, both at the beginning and end of the story, feature a dark blue sky with glimpses of yellow. The yellow portrays both the moon and possibly light from the moon shining throughout

the sky. This image suggests that the reader is looking up toward the sky, rather than amongst it.

The first opening of the story reveals that Louie, one of our main characters from the front cover, is being teased because his dad collects so much junk. Through full bleed double page spreads, the reader is immediately placed within the storyline, experiencing Louie's frustration. The pages are decorated with splotches and streaks of yellow, suggesting that happy things are ahead. After turning to the next page, the illustrations almost foreshadow what is about to take place. The reader sees what looks to be a canvas that contains the colors of space, serving as a backdrop to what the children are building.

As the story progresses, the reader remains front and center to the storyline, going along for a ride through the sky with the kids. That canvas backdrop becomes the setting for a hefty chunk of the plot until the children use their imaginations to return back to reality. This story reveals itself through a circular structure, beginning with the children using what they have to create a means for escaping and ending with many more children hoping to embark on the same adventure.

Regards to the Man in the Moon is an excellent example of why our imaginations are so important and how our perspective on situations can change our direction in life.

Ben Truong says

Regards to the Man in the Moon is a children's book written and illustrated by Ezra Jack Keats, which tells a story about Louie and his friend Susie who goes to space in a rocket ship powered by a child's imagination. It is the fourth book of four books in the *Louie* series.

The text is rather simple and straightforward. It is an endearing story about a shy boy named Louie and his friend Susie going into space on a spaceship powered by imagination. The writing has the power of a child's imagination and wonder that is done exceptionally well. The illustrations are breathtakingly beautiful – especially the illustration about space.

The premise of the book is rather straightforward, but provocative. Children are making fun of Louie for what his new father is – a garbage man. However, his newfound father scoffed at the idea, saying that with the proper imagination anything can be special – even junk. So, together with his mother, they built a spaceship fueled by imagination – only Susie believed in Louie and together the next day they blasted off. They were followed by two other kids – Ziggy and Ruthie and together the four had quite the adventure and in the end, Louie became one of the most popular kids.

For the *Louie* series as a whole, I rather like reading the character growth of Louie. He started out as quite the odd kid with few friends – if any. He could only really call a puppet Gussie his friend and for the most part lived in his imagination. Louie still lives in his imagination for the most part, but he isn't alone anymore – he has a new father and loads of friends.

All in all, *Regards to the Man in the Moon* is a wonderful children's book about how important and powerful the imagination could be – it could even take you to outer space.

Josiah says

There's a brand-new family in Louie's life, but that isn't enough for him to fit in automatically with the other kids in his neighborhood. His new father, Barney, is a junk dealer, and Louie's peers aren't too impressed. So Barney concocts a way to use the antiques he collects to open the door to an arena of adventure for Louie and his potential friends, an arena whose only limits are the confines of the universe, too vast and voluminous for all the human minds in history put together to fathom. If Louie and the other kids are willing to see Barney's weatherworn wares as he sees them, each one a makeshift craft to be buoyed by the winds of imagination and piloted to distant realms, then maybe the collective energy of all their imagination working together can be the starting point for lasting friendship. Whether visiting the moon or stars or exploring mysteries of far-off galaxies, a creative mind can do wonders for a group of kids playing in a junkyard, and it can do the same for us, wherever we may be.

Ezra Jack Keats's artistic style is distinctive, and the marriage of illustrations and storytelling clearly demonstrates why he was honored with Caldecott recognition on numerous occasions. *Regards to the Man in the Moon* isn't his most resounding work (for my money, that would be *Maggie and the Pirate*), but it's a solid early introduction to the power of creativity in connecting us to one another in spite of our differences, joining hands over divides of culture, class, economic station, and race. Ezra Jack Keats was a pioneer of promoting unity through his picture books, and *Regards to the Man in the Moon* continues that legacy. I would give it at least one and a half stars.

Mely says

boring and choppy. No flow to the story. Even my kiddo was bored.

Ryan Madis says

As far as the pictures themselves go, I dig. Some of the coloring techniques used were super appealing to me. I can't exactly pinpoint what the author did specifically to make these watercolored illustrations unique, but I did feel that they were unique to an extent. Each picture was very detailed, and in the middle of the book, there were a couple pictures with little to no words which was cool, just to take in the pictures without otherwise distracting words. I like that very much.

There was a lot of dialogue which was very refreshing because, in many of my picturebook experiences, there is limited dialogue. With the story revolving around imagination, it was nice to see kids talking about what they saw and felt. It made the story that much more relatable and ultimately that much more immersive. There were multiple characters while the books before this had 1 to 2 usually which certainly stood out to me.

Overall, it was a pretty good read.

Nada says

I thought this book was amazing! It is set up in a circular structure where it starts out in reality and ends back in reality.

The cover of the book is a glimpse of the imaginative adventure the children take. Our eyes are immediately drawn to the kids due to their close positioning to us as the viewers. Our eyes then move to the moon and their diagonal journey towards it.

The entire book is set up to be full bleed double page spreads. This allows us to feel as though we are going on this imaginative adventure with the kids. What was different about this book compared to other “escaping reality” books was that the characters in this story admitted to their adventure as imagination while in the other books we were left confused as to what reality was because the characters really made us believe that their imagination was actually reality.

When the children in the story went on their imaginative adventure through space, the colors the illustrator used were dark and calming. The planets were made to look very realistic with their shapes and colors. It was also noticed that when the kids were making their way down from space the buildings and city were also drawn to look so real with the buildings being black and grey with skyscraper like structures and the sky looking gray and dirty and full of pollution. The characters however were drawn to be very simple and cartoon like which leads me to believe that the author wanted us to pay closer attention to their adventure of “escaping reality” rather than the children themselves.

Sashel Palacios says

Regards to the Man in the Moon by Ezra Jack Keats is a children’s book intended for children ages 4-7 and really does a great job of encouraging children to use their imagination. In the course of the story starts when the a man collection of “junk” turns into a spark of interest in using his imagination to build a rocket ship. After building "Imagination I" at school, Louie and hi classmate Susie both jumped in the rocket and were ready for blastoff! Once in the sky, their imagination went wild and they ended up running into some out of this world objects, including dangerous flying meteors. Louie and Susie survived the adventure and made their way home. The next day Louie and Susie told their classmates about and the fun that they had and that quickly interested the rest of the children to blast off!

Society has made it so simple of children to just conform to the social norm, an sometimes I feel as though children are losing their drive to be different and use their imagination. Ezra Jack Keats perfectly wrote this book to help encourage children that everything is much better with imagination. Using simplistic and creative language, Keats makes it very easy for children, and even adults reading the book, to relate to the main characters and “put themselves in their shoes”. The dialogue between Louie and his parents, and Louie and Susie while they are up in space, is interesting because that is the thoughts that most children have while pretend playing.

Although, I am not a big fan of pictures that look like water-color, I really think these picture made a capitalization. On every page, there is a lot of color and there is hardly any white spots, while makes the book very busy yet very productive. On the pages that are located in outer space, they were detailed and

makes outer space a place that I would love to visit, and I can if I use my imagination.

Connie says

Ezra Jack Keats is a classic picture book author. Your library isn't complete without at least a few of his books.

This one is less well-known, I think, than some of the others such as *The Snowy Day*... and I'm not very surprised.

The story itself is great. A kid is teased for his father owning a junkyard, and his parents help him use the junk to build a pretend spaceship... so he and some of the other kids pretend to travel through space, and the story is built up with what they pretend to see. Great!

Except I found it a little moralizing. Louie talks actively about "using our imagination" and "don't you have any imagination" and "they thought they ran out of imagination", and we're explicitly told that the two kids who "ran out of imagination" found themselves unable to move in their make-believe world (probably because they weren't really moving, but let's not go there). I don't hear children speaking like this in real life. It sounds more like teacher-talk than like child-talk to me - children are more likely to say "let's pretend" or "let's make like" - or to even just go ahead and *do* it. And if they can't come up with something, they say that or let somebody else make things up instead of bemoaning their lack of imagination.

It's still a good book, and a good addition to your library, but I prefer *The Pet Show* or *Whistle for Willie* instead.

Jeff Fortney says

This is an excellent book on the power of the imagination. Louie is embarrassed that his dad is the local junkman. His father retorts that with a little imagination some of this stuff (junk) "can take you out of this world."

So Louie gets to work building *Imagination I*...his version of *Voyager III* (much to the snickering delight of his peers. Even though they are mocking him, he invites them to come along if they have the needed amounts of imagination. One little girl decides to go with him...even brings treats. With a countdown and blast-off...away they "flew."

Hurdled into space in their *Imagination I* they fly by planets and supernovas. Suddenly jolted to a stop they find that some of their friends had come along for the ride, but had used up all their imagination, so not only were they stuck...they were stopping Louie and Susie from moving.

Luckily, an asteroid field comes along - no, wait, one of the stowaways calls...they're monsters. Ha! There's the imagination that will get things moving again.

Needless to say, they all survive the harrowing ordeal in outer space. After telling their friends, the Junkman's property is overrun with kids wanting to take themselves out of this world.

Ezra Jack Keats has written and illustrated so many fascinating books. This one is outstanding.

Rain Misoa says

This is one of the children's books that I read for *We Give Books*, A Pearson Foundation Initiative to help children all around the world obtain books. It's an organization that gathers many campaigns in one spot on the web to encourage people to read many books for children. With every book you read, one gets donated to the campaign you signed up for. (There's quite a few campaigns available.) A very good friend of mine, Nicole Terazue, recommended this site to me since she knew I loved reading books! (Thanks love!) The campaign I chose to be a part of is called *Jumpstart for Young Children*. Every book that I read associated with *We Give Books* gets donated to *Jumpstart for Young Children* so that less fortunate kids in pre-schools all over America will be able to have more books to read from and learn. It's a fabulous project and I urge all readers, especially parents with young children, to join and help other children less fortunate than our own to read and spread the word of *We Give Books*. It will benefit children everywhere.

This was my first time reading this book and I thought it was simply beautiful! I love the message about using your imagination and being creative. I feel that there are simply too many children that watch too much TV, play too many video games, and sit around doing nothing when they could be going out and being productive. Now, I am not saying that is bad for your child. Your kids should be allowed to have down time and be able to play video games. They should be allowed to have fun. However, they also should be encourage to read, create things, experience the wonders of imagining a world they created for themselves. When I was a kid, I had an imagination that went everywhere! It surrounded me night and day. Even now I imagine things in my best and worse of times. I feel that I am the only one left, out of all my friends (the few that I have, to be honest) that still firmly believes that even as adults, we can use our imaginations to grow and help our minds expand. This book teaches children that same lesson. Following Louie in an outer space adventure with his friend Susie makes this an enjoyable read. There's not a lot of descriptive writing in this book. There is mostly dialogue which I think adds to the story. You see the characters interact with each other and really see what they think and how they feel. Also, the illustrations are impeccable! Looking at these illustrations is like looking onto a canvas. They each look like individual paintings that could hang in a museum. You know... if it was a museum intended to entertain children. Still, I am very much impressed with the drawings of this book. It's recommended for ages 4-7 and I'm going to stick with that. It's a good read and I think your child could learn to appreciate using their imagination with it.

Leonardo says

See... la gráfica está buena... la historia no está mal... la tipografía no me gustó.

Scott says

The Louie books are weird.

Lynn Davidson says

The neighbourhood kids make fun of Louie's dad, calling him the "junkman", so his dad shows Louie it's not really junk at all. It can be anything you want to imagine, so Louie and his parents build something that

inspires imagination.
