



The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore

William Joyce , Joe Bluhm (Illustrator)

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Morris Lessmore loved words.

He loved stories.

He loved books.

But every story has its upsets.

Everything in Morris Lessmore's life, including his own story, is scattered to the winds.

But the power of story will save the day.

The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore Details

Date : Published June 19th 2012 by Atheneum Books for Young Readers (first published 2011)

ISBN : 9781442457027

Author : William Joyce , Joe Bluhm (Illustrator)

Format : Hardcover 52 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Fantasy, Writing, Books About Books



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From Reader Review The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore for online ebook

Jen says

I've been reading this one to my littlest human for a couple of weeks now (thanks to a dear friend who gave it to me- thank you!) and it comes closer than many other books about reading, books, and libraries in expressing my feelings about these things to the people I've made.

For me, a place with books is kind of a sacred place. I can't fully explain it. Perhaps I think this way because when I was sporting a ponytail like Rainbow Brite, books were the only things that I could carry that could in turn carry me. Away I'd go over the high boundaries that my parents- mostly out of duty and love- constructed around me.

Morris Lessmore is carried away by books. As time passes, Morris is still as enthralled with books as he was on the day he was first carried away. I hope I feel like that. Then I will die happy, with books carrying me over the boundaries for the last time.

Cheri says

My love of reading began when I was fairly young, and although I've always loved being read to, I think even from a young age, I've loved the magic of falling into a book and being enclosed in its story, wrapped in its words. Long before I started school, my older brother had taught me to read, and my world was forever transformed, unseen doors opened and this charming book, "The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore" brought the memory of all that back to me in mere moments.

The illustrations themselves are delightful, for me somewhat reminiscent of the movie "Up" with a touch of "Lemony Snicket" and would hold the attention of any age.

The story will be one of those books that you'll envision your children reading to their children and so on, its message an ode to the power of books.

Simply put, this book is a love story to all books.

Jesse (JesseTheReader) says

A perfect picture book for book lovers! A reminder that no matter what happens in life, books will always be there to bring you comfort.

Lisa Vegan says

I'm a sucker for books about books, and this is a fantastic book. For me, it was 5 stars all the way, up until toward the end, then it lost me a bit, but I still really liked it. I particularly liked the books as characters. I liked the lending library setting. I liked so much.

The story is sweet and amusing and inventive, and sort of sad too. Most of the pages had me smiling.

The illustrations are fabulous to view, so detailed and creative and unusual.

I can recommend this book to fans of books, stories, and diary writing. This is a good all ages book, though young children may have some questions.

½ star added for what originality is shown. 4 ½ stars

Elevetha says

squeals in joy A bibliophile's book, if ever I have read one. I don't think I can put into words how lovely this book is; how charming and heartbreaking and *true* it is*. Only a book lover would understand, which is why I do think that as much as children might enjoy the book, they probably won't find as much meaning in it as someone older. And it has *layers*. The more I read it, the more I see in it. But no matter how old you are or how many books you've read, it's a lovely story.

Oh, and the short film is wonderful as well!

*I feel like maybe I read this at a very emotional time...

re-read September 2016

Karen A. says

My rating is a little biased because this is clearly a love letter to librarians from Mr. Joyce. Dear Mr. Joyce ... you flatterer you!! I accept.

Kortessa says

I love love love this book!! I get emotional every time I read it!! I can't find the words. It's a book that can make anyone love books!!! The illustrations are amazing and meaningfull!!!
I m thinking of giving it as a gift to my daughters' school for the school library!!!!
Great for every age!!!!

Ryan Dejonghe says

I usually try to separate my children's book reviews on Amazon and my book feed on goodreads. This book is the exception. Everyone—no matter the age or genre interest—should read this book.

Sometimes we are fortunate to have a story medium transcend the barrier between what is called a children's story and what is a story for adults. In books, I would liken this to something like Where the Wild Things

Are. For movies, this is like Toy Story; it is something that can be enjoyed and appreciated by people of all ages. Fantastic Flying Books is a book that will touch anyone's heart, no matter how many years it has been beating upon this earth.

What Toy Story did to bring the beloved and classic toys to life, making them even more near and dear to our lives, is what Fantastic Flying Books does for, well, books. There you go: Toy Story and Book Story. No, this is not the same plot, but the after-effect is the same and will continue to blossom within you after the last page is read.

As for the plot, we are greeted by a writer, surrounded by still books, and yet he doesn't seem satisfied. A storm comes along, brushing aside words, letters, and everything else. Books themselves embrace our protagonist in a wonderful way, creating a special life-long bond. Adventure is present and is displayed by many beautiful, warm illustrations. But more importantly, the love of books is the underlying theme.

There's not much more I can say besides "please read this book". If you value the importance of reading in yourself or your children, this book is sure to please.

Laura says

"Everyone's story matters."

Joys, sorrows and everything that we hope for in life can get so confusing, mixed up or lost. We have to hold on and keep working and searching for our path and purpose in life. Keep looking for peace and inspiration. I found inspiration here.

Welcome to the library. Welcome to The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore...

"Morris slowly walked inside and discovered the most mysterious and inviting room he had ever seen. It was filled with the fluttering of countless pages, and Morris could hear the faint chatter of a thousand different stories, as if each book was whispering an invitation to adventure."

Mr. Lessmore found a place in this world to organize, mend, share, and get lost in. Me too! The library is where I go to find quiet, peace, and stories. I feel comfortable surrounded by books and words. The library always has and always will be a home to me.

This book is every reader's dream. The lure and love of books and my true love is splashed across the pages in big, gorgeous images and heartfelt words. Words stand tall! Books look alive in stacks and colors and movement. You know you found something special when you can't help caressing each page before turning to the next. I loved every page!

Mr. Joyce's words are an inspiration. They will inspire readers AND writers. Pick up a pen or type away at a keyboard—just write! Write your story. Write your "joys and sorrows and all that you know and everything you hope for". And then share them. Your words can inspire too.

Highly recommended.

Calista says

I adore this surreal book. This was recommended on Jesse the Reader's channel and it is fantastic. Something about this little story lifts your heart up. Each page is a surprise and a treat. I love that the books have personality and they roost.

If you want to add some joy to your life, this is a book for any book lover. There was a short made of this and I want to see it, or the other way around. This describes the experience and joy of reading. What a marvelous and wondrous book this is. I need to own this Gem.

The kids loved this too. The flying books delighted them and the niece let out a Wow! while reading it. My nephew loves Humpty Dumpty and there is a character that looks like him and he was obsessed with that book.

Meredith Holley says

I was reading Within a Budding Grove recently, and the copy I have is an older one, the dust jacket worn and ripped in places. I like to read hardcovers of books the best, so I can use the dust jacket as a bookmark, and so I feel like the book is solid and less likely to get creased and broken by my reading. But, this copy was delicate, and every time I touched it, I could feel it crumbling in my fingers. The book itself was a beautiful, delicate thing, like the writing and ideas on its page, like the vulnerability of its narrator. My touch was too rough and solid.

I went out and bought supplies, and made a cover for the jacket, and pasted it all back together again, so that the book would be protected from my awkward pawings.

I loaned a hardcover to a friend once, a cheap hardcover of New Moon, even, which I had bought at Target for maybe \$6. The friend forgot it was mine, and by the time I discovered it in her house again, the dust jacket was lost and the pages dog-eared. I couldn't help but feel my friend had beaten up someone I loved. And, clearly, it was an inexpensive copy of a book that is $\frac{3}{4}$ abysmally boring, but it's not about which book it is. It is a book. If you can't be trusted with a book, what can you be trusted with?

Books are a dream of fireplaces and hot chocolate on a snowy day. They are a vision of seeing people as they really are, of understanding what the world is and who we are in it. They are family and love and friendship. Books are small packages that contain all the possibility in the universe. Books are my favorite. And I love the pages and binding and covers as the presence of magic in the physical world.

A book holds the world of a story, but it also holds the world of our reading experiences. For years, I kept the copy of Crime and Punishment that my friend gave me, saying, "Here, I know it is good, but I can't finish it." It is an old, broken paperback, and I held it in my hands while I jumped at shadows and knew that at any moment a murrrrderer could sneak up behind me and catch me unawares. I kept that copy of the book, even while I had other copies because the book itself absorbed my experience of reading. Last year, I gave

the copy to a younger friend who hadn't read it, a friend who was the same age I was when I read the book. Giving her my copy of the book was, for me, also giving her that experience from my life. Look at the magic these pages contain: they are Raskolnikov disintegrating at the brutality of life, they are me warily eyeing my friends at a coffee shop because they may have been planning to kill me.

The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore is a sweet little picture book about how books are all that matters in life. It is about how these little packages contain something about the essence of who we are and what we experience.

“Everyone’s story matters,” said Morris. And all the books agreed.”

This is a lovely book, just as the animated film made from it is lovely. It is the kind of premise I resist, maybe because it sounds too generalized or precious about The Things That Matter, but its execution is really beautiful, and I love it. Books are important. They contain the magic of other worlds and lives and the magic of our experiences living in other worlds and other lives.

I received a copy of this book from the publisher in exchange for nothing.

Kathryn says

I first fell in love with the Fantastic Flying Books and Morris Lessmore's story from the beautiful Academy Award-winning short film based on Joyce's book. I was so excited when my library finally got a copy of the book itself so that I could enjoy the original.

And what a gorgeous book it is!

I love the story so much and it's so beautiful and touching and full of meaning that I don't really want to say too much about it. I think it is open to many interpretations. I know I had my own idea of who the lady with the flying books was when I read Joyce's touching dedication at the back of the book. It's a story about life and love and loss and meaning and creating your own story and loving the stories of others. It might best be appreciated by adults for these many layers, but even young readers could also enjoy the beautiful illustrations and the fantasy aspect of the tale.

A few of my favorite quotes:

[When Morris helps take care of all the fantastic flying books]: "Morris tried to keep the books in some sort of order, but they always mixed themselves up. The tragedies needed cheering up and would visit with the comedies. The encyclopedias, weary of facts, would relax with the comic books and fictions. All in all it was an agreeable jumble."

Also,

"Morris liked to share the books with others. Sometimes it was a favorite that everyone loved, and other times he found a lonely little volume whose tale was seldom told. 'Everyone's story matters,' said Morris. All the books agreed."

I do, too :-)

Matthew says

To check out my reviews: <http://dancinginth3dark.blogspot.com>

Beautiful and Heartbreaking

We meet Mr. Morris Lessmore who is constantly reading books and every day he imagines his life as a book and with every new day comes a new blank page for him to write his joys and sorrows. Then one day a storm comes blowing and destroys everything and takes Morris off to a parallel world where he sees a girl flying away with books and he's angry that his books aren't magical.

The girl witnesses this and sends one of her books to help him and sure enough he stumbles into what looks like a library and he can hear the books talking as though they are begging to be read and begins the mission to read every book available. The task is quite difficult and since the books are magical they tend to get out of alphabetical order but he as a loving human being takes care of them, reads every day, and fixes any damages that need repairing. In many ways he is the father that takes care of his children.

Everyone from adults to children come visit his library and soon he has found his place to call home. Soon the years come to pass and we find Mr. Morris Lessmore become an old man with a crane. As the decades have gone by, he has written his life story into a book and realizes that death has arrived and he must leave.

It is heartbreaking to see him wish his books goodbye but he's always known that those books are not his and are meant for everyone. It is up to the next generation to come in and preserve these books so that way their stories will always be told. The books are sad that he has left them but they understand why and luckily for them he left them a little goodbye present.

Disney has adapted this book and made it into a short animated film that won the Oscar which I am happy to discover because he definitely deserves all the awards! The illustrations are simply beautiful and there aren't enough words to describe how phenomenal of a story it is and I highly recommend everyone to read it or watch the short film.

It's a universal story that can resonate with everyone and I realize that now that one of the reasons why I collect books now is because when I am no longer roaming this earth I want my children and future generations to be able to discover the books I read throughout my life and expand my collection with the books they discover in their lifetime. It connects both the past, the present, and the future and unites them to make the impact that books will live forever.

Books will be around after we die and it is important for us to leave a legacy for future generations to hold the torch with literature and the preservation of the written word. I find it marvelous to believe that besides the memories I share with my family and loved ones, my favorite books are a deep connection for those who want to remember me or want to bond when I am no longer around.

Tisha says

Children's book???? NO WAY!!!! This book is an emotion! It cannot be categorized only as a children story. NEVER! This book picturizes the long cherished dream of every bibliophile.

It is praiseworthy that how beautifully the author has presented the impacts of books on our lives just in few pages! SIMPLY BEAUTIFUL!

Books fill our lives with colors. They become our companion when we have no one. They become our best friends! But sometimes we forget them, we abandon them and that is the time when a book dies! This made me very emotional.

AHHHH.....THIS BOOK IS BEAUTIFUL....so as the short film based on this which won the Academy Award for Best Short Film in 2012!

Love for this book! <3

Trudi says

Love love love

Adore adore adore

Beautiful beautiful beautiful

A book lover's book. An object to be cherished. A story meant to be told again and again.

It softened the edges of this librarian's cynical soul for a bright wondrous moment.

KatLynne says

Mr. Morris Lessmore loved words. He loved stories. He loved books. As a young man, he was enjoying writing his own story until the winds came and scattered his book and all his words across the land.

This little gem is perfectly illustrated. It clearly demonstrates the love of books and how they transform lives. This is not just a children's favorite but will appeal to everyone who loves the written word.

A charming and captivating read that quickly became a favorite for all ages.

See the short film on YouTube....

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tkJPM...>

Deb Tyo says

Must. Have. This. Book.

My students are writing their own versions of The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore.

I started by showing my students the first couple minutes of the short film that is based on this book. The students then began writing their story. Each day since, I have played a bit more of the film for the students. After each section, they continued their own story. I cannot wait for the students to complete their stories and share them. Each is incredibly unique and amazing.

Teresa says

If you've seen the (Academy Award-winning) short film of this, you already know how gorgeous the illustrations are; and that the charming story is a love letter to both books and their readers.

Perhaps the silent film is even better than the book, but that doesn't take anything away from it. It's a lovely keepsake, and mine is autographed!

Maria Roxana says

"Povestea noastră se încheie așa cum a început....cu deschiderea unei cărți.
O cărtică minunată pe care totuși iubitorii de cărți o vor iubi!

Abdollah zarei says

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