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Let Me Finish!



Synopsis

Selected as a Best Book of 2016 by NPR, Betsy Bird/School Library Journal, the Nerdy Book Club, and others. Finalist for Florida's Sunshine State Young Readers Jr. Award and Wyoming's Buckaroo Book Award and selected for the Wisconsin State Reading Association's Picture This! Recommended Reading List. When our young hero settles in to read, the last thing he wants is for some noisy animals to ruin the ending of the story. But ruin it they do. And as it turns out, the boy is quickly approaching a surprise ending of his own! Maybe he should have listened to the animals after all. . . .

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 450 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 20 pages

Publisher: Disney-Hyperion (June 7, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 148472173X

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Product Dimensions: 8.9 x 0.5 x 11.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 26 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #19,278 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #72 in [Books > Children's Books](#) > [Arts, Music & Photography](#) > [Art](#) #987 in [Books > Children's Books > Humor](#) #1174 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals](#)

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - Kindergarten

Customer Reviews

PreS-Gr 2 **•** The sheer bliss of settling into a good book without being interrupted by spoilers is the topic of this title. A boy is so excited and filled with anticipation to read a good book, yet each time he begins a new one, lively animals share their favorite parts and ruin the story for him. From birds to bears to giraffes, everyone has an opinion they want to share with him about the book he is reading. The harder he tries to elude them, the more the animals multiply and chase him. Wherever he goes **•** his home, the forest, the jungle, the mountains, the sea **•** the animals find him and try to tell him what is in store for him. The illustrations are colorful, and the book is mostly written in dialogue bubbles. Much in the vein of Jon Klassen's *I Want My Hat Back*, this title leaves

readers to assume an unexpected ending for the boy. VERDICT A fun storytime selection for audiences with a good sense of humor. — Vivian Ho, Port Washington Public Library, NY

"Here's a spoiler alert of our own: there's a surprise in this engaging tale that you definitely won't want to miss!" -Barnes & Noble "Call it a preemptive strike: Schools children who are new to reading (and probably more likely to be the spoiler than the spoilee) on the evils of the spoiler... Roxas's mixed-media illustrations take the boy--and readers--on an imaginative journey... There's lots of forward momentum: in trying to evade the creatures, the boy is almost always moving toward the end and thus toward the page turn. There's also a built-in lesson about how books work for new readers--and about how to be considerate when discussing a favorite book in front of others." -The Horn Book "One of the best of the year." -Betsy Bird, A Fuse #8 Production/School Library Journal "Pleasingly silly." -Kirkus "Such a fun romp! A boy with big glasses is trying his best to find a quiet spot to read, but no luck! Creatures of all sorts keep interrupting to tell him why his book is so great. As you race to the end trying to avoid spoilers, the book in his hands becomes the book in your hands. I can't wait to see what's next from first-time author Minh Lê!" -NPR's Book Concierge (Great Reads of 2016)

I loved *Let Me Finish*. It's a great, fun-to-read children's book, a story within a story. With whimsical animal characters, the book, albeit short, grabs kids' attention from beginning to end, and will be useful and fun on a wide range of levels, as children grow older. Of course, it's perfect for little kids to listen to, but as a child becomes more familiar with the story, *Let Me Finish* also inspires a response. What child doesn't love to anticipate what is coming next? When I saw author Min and illustrator Isabel at a bookstore reading earlier this summer, they turned the response idea into a detective game with several groups of engaged primary grade children. The kids were captivated, becoming detectives, asking questions, and figuring out what a newly created story line, based on *Let Me Finish*, might be. Anticipating what comes next in a story, asking questions, and putting together details are such important parts of becoming a strong reader. *Let Me Finish* joins an illustrious list of picture books that inspire children to write, by authoring stories that imitate the original prose in a story. Picture books that incorporate distinct patterns and phrases (including old, but never forgotten stories, such as *The Important Book* by Margaret Wise Brown, *A Rose in My*

Garden of Earthly Delights" by Arnold Lobel, and "Chocolate Moose for Dinner" by Fred Gwynne), encourage children to figure out what the writer is doing with words, imitate the writing, and pen their own stories. By examining the language patterns in the book and using plots from their lives (and their parents' lives) young people put their imaginations to work and learn about the structure and purpose of good writing. Buy this book, read it over and over now, and then pull it out again and again when kids need to consider the more sophisticated ideas that "Let Me Finish" illustrates so well.

I was not impressed with the illustrations and writing at first, and thought that the plot line is a bit complicated for a small child, but my 2-year-old daughter loved this book from the very start! It made me think about my own pre-conceived ideas of what a children's book should be and look like, and how much more open to new things and ideas little kids are!

We wondered if our not quite 3 1/2 year old Grandson would be old enough for this book but it turns out he adores it. It immediately moved into his top literary tier: an "Again !" Book. After the third reading tonight he was imitating the protagonist- climbing up on a tower of pillows, pretending to read an imaginary book and yelling "Let me Finish!" to invisible dinosaurs. I am certain that this is a book he will grow into as he matures and better understands the concept, but it's already a big favorite of his. I look forward to more books from this author.

Awesome story. My almost 6 year old loves it. So creative, love the illustrations like the ripped page.

A great introductory book to the school year when discussing why you shouldn't spoil the endings of books for others. The illustrations are fun and cartoonish and the story is perfect for any age group.

A sure-to-be classic. An imaginative, playfully illustrated romp that captures the universal, timeless joy of a good book. If you interrupt a child reading this book, she will almost certainly demand that you let her finish.

This little gem of a book will appeal to pre-readers and beginners alike. It's fancifully illustrated with a story that will resonate with young and developing readers.

Granddaughters approved! Two (times 2) tiny thumbs up! Funny, sweet for book loving little people.
Can't wait for the next offering from this wonderful author!

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