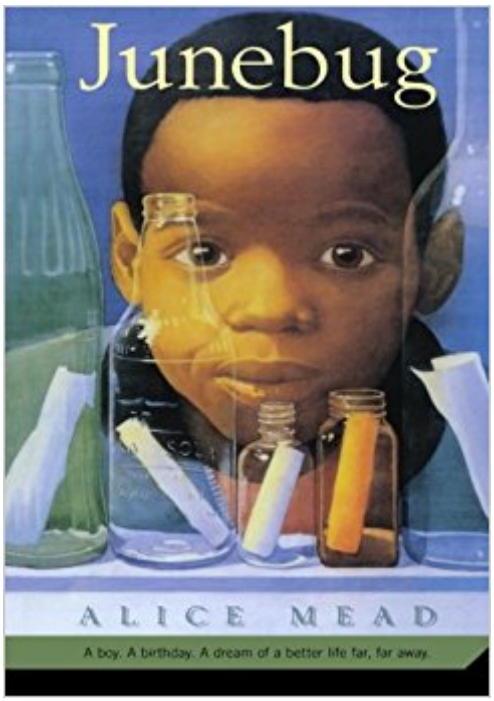
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Junebug



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Synopsis

Some of the stuff that goes on in the Auburn Street Projects, I'm never gonna do. These projects are like some kind of never-never land, like they never got put on a regular map. Nobody comes around here on purpose. It's as if we all got lost, right in the middle of the city.Reeve McClain, Jr. -- Junebug -- has decided to skip his birthday. Since ten is the age when boys in the projects are forced to join gangs or are ensnared by drug dealers, Junebug would rather remain nine. Still, he does have a birthday wish: to someday become a ship's captain and sail away. So Junebug comes up with a plan to launch a flotilla, fifty glass bottles containing notes with his wish, in the hope that someone somewhere will help to make his dream come true.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 570L (What's this?)

Series: Junebug

Paperback: 128 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 30 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #171,299 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #26 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Drugs #46 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Violence #335 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Fiction

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Grade 3-6?Junebug is the story of risks taken and goals achieved by a small nuclear family struggling against a harsh environment. Nearly 10-year-old Reeve McClain, Jr. (Junebug) says, "For my birthday wish I would like to sail a boat." Hardly an ordinary request for a black kid living in the projects of New Haven. Especially since the other big topics on the boy's mind are how to avoid the pressure to join a gang, the sense of abandonment once his 16-year-old friend flees town to escape

a drug lord, and ways he can help make his mother's tough life a little easier. The characters are fresh and vivid: self-involved, fast-traveling Aunt Jolita; little sister, Tasha, remarkably sensitive and shy; and Mama, who finally steps off the treadmill of daily survival when her job provides a chance to move away. Junebug himself is quite clear about who he is and where he should be going. Told in the first person, the narrative is immediate and casual, the setting starkly revealed. The book is engaging and suspenseful, with enough scary characters and situations to keep most readers engrossed. The youngster, by the way, gets his wish in the end via a message placed in each of 50 bottles and set to sea. The ultimate message, however, is that change is possible when responsibility is an individual obligation. Mead's writing approaches the power of Walter Dean Myers's novels about inner-city life, but is for a younger audience.?Carolyn Noah, Central Mass. Regional Library System, Worcester, MACopyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Gr. 4^-7. Junebug lives in the projects, taking care of his little sister, Tasha, when his mother works. He avoids the older boys in gangs and dreams of someday becoming a boat captain. Afraid of changing his life, bleak as it is, for something unknown, he hopes his mother won't move the family across town and take the new job she's been offered. However, when his young Aunt Jolita gets too friendly with a bad crowd and begins drawing him in, he realizes that leaving is the family's only hope. Junebug is a compelling, thoughtful narrator whose wishes and determination are balanced by Jolita's absence of dreams and character. The novel is hard-hitting and unleavened by humor, but Junebug's likable personality and the upbeat note at the end will leave readers satisfied. A likely choice for school literature circles. Susan Dove Lempke --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

From Aidan: When I heard about the options for reading groups in our fourth grade class, I automatically knew I wanted Junebug for my book. the main idea is about a 10 year old boy who lives in a rough part of new haven.It's sad in some parts because I know if I were in those situations, I would have a hard time finding the good things in my life. Even though it's quite sad, it also makes you happy when something good happens. The writer did a very good job writing and really makes you feel for Junebug. I would give it 1000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 stars if I could.Junebug lives in the Northeast ,so he is pretty close to the water and he loves boats. There is slight violence and they do mention a boy who is in a gang and has a gun. There was also a

13-16 year old girl who was really hurt. If you have read Hatchet, you might remember that when the boy lands, he is quite confused and he needs to gather his bearings and he still keeps on going. Well, it's the same with Junebug when something goes wrong, he keeps on going. It's great for 9-11 year old boys and girls.If you are a kid, it is a great book you should read it !!!!!!!! I hope you will read it.From Nate: I thought that Junebug was a great book. In some parts, it was sad and at some parts it was happy, but the whole time it was a good book. If I were Junebug, I would do exactly what he did. I think he made the right choices.I have already recommended this book to one of my friends. I think the age range for this book is probably from 9 to 12 years old. I think it is sad that a boy that age would have to go through so many hard times and take so much responsibility. Junebug's aunt and her friends are bad people, but a lot of people are much worse in this book. I highly recommend reading Junebug. I think that most people that enjoy sad and adventure books would like Junebug. This book has minor violence. I think most people would love this book. I highly recomend reading this and the second book.From Julian: I think Junebug is a very emotional book. It has both sad and happy parts. It makes you feel lucky that you have a lot more than him and that he has so little compared to you. It has many adventures about Junebug's life and his family and other people.Junebug doesn't want to go into gang. Unfortunately, when you turn 10 in his neighborhood , others usually force you into one. Junebug stands up to neighborhood gangs and refuses to join them. So he puts messages in bottles sending his birthday wishes out to sea. He sends 50 messages. They each have the same message. Junebug is very interested in boats and water. Junebug lives in Connecticut on Auburn Street in New Haven. Junebug has an aunt and her name is Jolita. She is rude. Junebug has a sister Tasha who is nice and his Mom. I think the beginning just tells you about him, then the middle is all about everything in his life and the end is nice and sad. There are A LOT of gang and drug dealers in his neighborhood. There is a lot of violence in the book in some parts of the book.The author Alice Mead is a very good author. If there were 100 stars, I would rate it exactly 100. I believe there are two of the Junebug books. Boys and girls, men and women would like this book. Hope you enjoy it!From David:I think that there are good and bad things about Junebug. Some parts scared me and I think they scared the main character (Junebug), too. Somehow, Junebug always finds something good in a bad thing. What I liked about this book is that there is stuff that happens that really excited me and when we stopped reading, I was wondering what would happen.If you have read this book than there is a second book if you want to read more about Junebug's life, it is Junebug in Trouble. I would rate it four stars!From Luke: I think Junebug is one of the best books I have ever read. I truly think you should read it because the main character (Junebug) has a way some around things. If I were in some of the situations that Junebug

was in, I would have no clue of what to do.Junebug always believes in himself and doesn't give up. Junebug is basically in love with boats. He lives in a not so good of an apartment. There is some violence in the book. The place where Junebug lives is not a safe place because the police don't come all the time and same with the firefighters and the ambulance. I go to a way better school than Junebug. There are a lot of guns in this book. In this book they mostly join gangs when they turn 10. Junebug isn't one of those kids that are spoiled and want video games and NERF guns like me. Junebug wants bottles and corks instead.Junebug is why different then me. He lives in a apartment and I live in a nice home. If you read Junebug I think you will really like it. I have read both books Junebug#1 and the sequel, Junebug in Trouble. Junebug in trouble is the second one. My favorite one is Junebug, but I think you will have to read the first one first because in the second one, it doesn't talk that much about where he lives and all of the good stuff is in book # 1. Five stars!Five stars!From Oci: The book Junebug was really sad, but it had a lot of meaning. It's one of those books that really gets to you. I really enjoyed how the author put so many exciting parts in the book. I would recommend Junebug to people who like books that are really emotional. This book has some violence, but it always ends up in a good way. If you read this book and you like it, you should read the sequel called Junebug In Trouble!In the first chapter of Junebug, I thought I would not like the book, but in the middle of the second chapter, I knew I would love it. Junebug is a amazing book, but I think it is for fourth graders and older because it would be a little hard to understand for younger kids.Four stars!From Madalyne: Junebug was a good book because I really like how detailed it was. Junebug was very sad. I enjoyed the book. It was very exciting to see what was next . When I started the book, I was not that excited, but when I got to the second chapter I started to love it. Sadly, there was some violence in the book . If I were Junebug, I would hate it having that rough of a life. Even though it was sad, it was very inspiring because he never let go of his dreams . Although Junebug is a good book, it would be kind of be hard to understand for kids under 4th grade. It really depends on how good of a reader you are. But this is definitely a good book and you should read it .There is also another book called (that is the sequel) Junebug In Trouble. You should read that, too.Four stars!

Loved the story about a boy living in hostile neighborhood. Pre-teens and teens from inner city identify with characters and situations in story. Junebug holds onto his dream to escape his environment. Nice ending.

My 8 year old Godson loved this book. I plan to get him more. I would recommend this book and

series.

A friend of mine read it and enjoyed it and told me to read it, so I did. I enjoyed it. I must admit that it did make me cry at different times in book because he was so young with a lot of responsibility that should not be put on a child. I have already told a friend of mine to read it.

I'm studying to become a teacher, and I found this book to be good for all age groups due to the topics it discusses, psychology of individuals living in a poor neighbor, sociology of poor neighbors, and interactions between people. I would recommand this book for those studying any social science course in college, as well as individuals in middle school for their English classes. The main character makes us down there that there is a rainbow at the other end of the day in all of our lives.

The book Junebug is about a kid named Junebug. He lives with his mom, sister, and aunt. Junebug lives in a really nasty and ugly neighborhood. He doesn't really like that because there are a lot of gangbangers and bad people around there.Junebug has an aunt named Jolita, and she likes to hang out with them. Unfortunately she brings a lot of problems to Junebug's family. In the story Junebug has just one true friend named Darnell. The sad thing is that Darnell runs away from all the revolutionary neighborhood. I like this book because it is a adventure book. I also like how they explain the characters and how they explain all the things that happened in the story.I enjoyed reading this book and I think that the author did a great job. I recommend this book to all the people that like to read entertaining stories.

The projects is were Reeve Mclain lives aka Junebug. He is a young man who collects bottles. He lives with his mom ,sister and aunt. There is a lot of gangbangers where he live. He only has one true friend named Darnell but, com to find out Darnell has to get out of town because, he is in trouble. Junebug's mom got pushed down the staires by a pimp that his aunt Jplitia lit in. So that is all for now if you want to find out the rest you should the book JuneBug.

October 26, 2001This is my Review of the book, June Bug. The Book June Bug is a good book . It is about a boy named Reeve Mclain but everybody calls him June Bug exept his mom and his teacher. He put all of his wishes in bottles and wants to throw them out to sea, and sense he has fifty bottles he hopes that someone will find it. For his birthday all he wants are corks 50 of them, and he wishes he had a boat to throw his bottles out on.

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