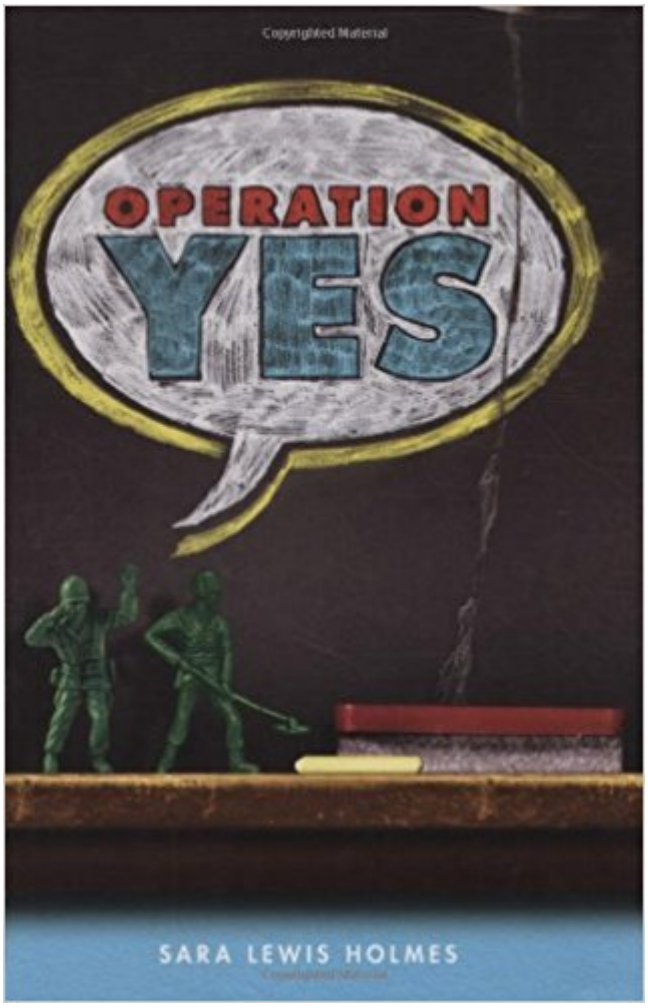
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Operation Yes



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Synopsis

No one in her sixth-grade class knows quite what to make of Ms. Loupe, with her short hair, her taped square "stage" on the floor, and the interest in improvisational theatre. After all, their school is on an Air Force base--a place that values discipline more than improv. But her students soon come to love her fresh approach; and when her dear brother goes missing in Afghanistan, and Ms. Loupe herself breaks down, they band together to support their teacher. What starts as a class fundraiser expands into a nationwide effort for all injured troops, and an amazing vision of community and hope.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 730L (What's this?)
Series: AWARDS: Sequoyah Book Awards 2012 Grades 3-5
Hardcover: 256 pages
Publisher: Arthur A. Levine Books; 1 edition (September 1, 2009)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0545107954
ISBN-13: 978-0545107952
Product Dimensions: 1.2 x 6 x 8.5 inches
Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 17 customer reviews
Best Sellers Rank: #457,082 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #268 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Military & Wars #2909 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > School
Age Range: 9 - 12 years
Grade Level: 4 - 7

Customer Reviews

"[T]he most buoyant example of ensemble work since E. L. Konigsburg's The View from Saturday (1996) and the best of Gregory Maguire's Hamlet Chronicles. . . . Though only a small part is actually written as a script, the entire tale is purest stagecraft: quick, funny, sad, full of heart, and irresistibly absorbing." -- Booklist, starred review“[T]his story of middle-school classmates who come together to honor their teacher and her war-injured brother entertains. . . . Miss Loupe is the kind of teacher every kid dreams about, and the “all for one, one for allÃ¢â ¬Â• mentality that comes through as the students band together is inspiring.Ã¢â ¬Â• -- Publishers Weekly“In

this lively, often funny novel, an enthusiastic teacher brings improv to restless sixth graders at a rundown school on a North Carolina Air Force base. . . . Pitched to readers in both military and civilian families, this engaging story avoids larger questions of war and peace, focusing instead on how they affect the lives of American kids who deal with the consequences every day.Ã¢â ¬Â• --Kirkus Reviews“The classroom is often a place of lessons, but Holmes tells her story–infused with details of military life–with heart and energy, and leaves any didacticism at the door. Sixth graders, military brats or not, will identify with this rich cast.Ã¢â ¬Â• --Horn Book

[T]he most buoyant example of ensemble work since E. L. Konigsburg's The View from Saturday (1996) and the best of Gregory Maguire's Hamlet Chronicles. . . . Flicking among points of view with increasing speed, Holmes tracks the blossoming of Bo Whaley, an often-in-trouble kinetic learner who takes to improv like a duck to water; his just-arrived cousin Gari (who will without doubt grow up to be a professional campaign manager); and a supporting cast of gently caricatured classmates, parents, and faculty. Though only a small part is actually written as a script, the entire tale is purest stagecraft: quick, funny, sad, full of heart, and irresistibly absorbing." --Booklist, starred reviewÃ Â (named as one of 2009's Top Ten Arts Books for Youth)Ã Â "Operation Yes is filled with riches: caring, loving parents, a multileveled portrait of what it is like to live in a military family, sympathetic and well-developed characters, sorrows, laughter, growing up, and thousands of LGMs (you'll see). Contemporary realistic juvenile fiction of the highest order." ---Provo Library ReviewÃ Â Miss Loupe is the kind of teacher every kid dreams about, and the "all for one, one for all" mentality that comes through as the students band together is inspiring. ---Publishers Weekly 8/17/ 09Ã Â "Holmes tells her story---infused with details of military life---with heart and energy, and leaves didacticism at the door. Sixth graders, military brats or not, will identify with this rich cast." ---From the Horn Book review, Nov/Dec 2009 issue

I knew when I picked up Operation Yes, that it was a children's book (9-12).I knew as I was reading it that it was a children's book.And somehow, as I got to the end, I forgot all of that and found that it wasn't ONLY a children's book. It was a thoroughly enjoyable tale about a small cast of sixth graders and their wonderfully unconventional sixth-grade teacher. Told, and told well, from the viewpoint of a sixth-grader, reading Operation Yes is almost like being back in a sixth grade yourself, minus the tripping over things and grass stains on the jeans.The backdrop of the story, a fictional Air Force fighter base in a nation at war, serves both as a credible setting and a constant

reminder of the outside world. In a fashion all too common on and around military bases, but atypical for the average group of 6th grade students, the outside world intrudes abruptly into the daily routine, sparking a decidedly unconventional response by students and staff.Operation Yes not only illustrates some of Long War's effects on military families and communities, but does it with compelling characters, a delightful story, and an emotionally stirring finale. The book rings with authenticity, from the "click" of flightsuits in the clothes dryer (a flightsuit has 8 metal zippers of varying length) through the day-to-day activities common to fighter bases, to the family adaptations called for by remote assignments, constant moves, and recurring combat deployments. Thought-provoking reading; I can't wait for the movie.Highly recommended.

Operation Yes is a thoughtful look at life in a military base school and an insightful look at the stress of being the child of a soldier. Without becoming political or preachy, Sara Holmes introduces us to two main characters, Bo and Gari, who try to adjust their school's rules and change their school's culture at the same time. Bo and Gari are realistic tweens. They question adults' motives, tune out anything said by an adult that does not directly impact them, and challenge what is unfair. The pace is a little slow until Plan C - which is so brilliant, I might propose it to our student council. Or even better, get some students to read Operation Yes and see if they will adopt Plan C for themselves.

This is a book I wasn't really expecting anything from, and boy was I ever wrong. It's a sad, funny, and deep story about what it was like to grow up in the war with a parent in the army.

I am a mid school teacher, and have two sons who have served in Afghanistan, so this book really spoke to me. I thought it was such a great story and the personalities of the characters were well defined. I bought it for a teacher friend who has a mid school son, I liked it so much. It would be a great read aloud for a mid school advisory or literacy class.

I received this book to review for another blog and I loved it. It is written for children who can read chapter books, but I found it to be entertaining and interesting. I am a military spouse so I could identify with much of the content, but I think non-military folks can read and understand the core concepts. My 10-year-old son has read most of it and also enjoyed reading it (he's now swept up in some other book). I bought this copy to send to my nephews who are not military kids. Waiting to hear what they think... GREAT book!

Good

Handbags hangs began vs DVD Hobbs adverbs vs uhh school v e vs uhh school and college students who are not be

Miss Loupe is the new sixth grade teacher at a school just outside a Air Force base in North Carolina; Bo Whaley is the base commander’s well-meaning, trouble-making son; Gari Whaley is Bo’s cousin whose mother is deployed in the Middle East; the whole sixth grade class is a group of individuals who are waiting for something to turn their lives into something...meaningful. That something may be Miss Loupe’s crazy ideas about improv theater and the practice of saying, "Yes, and..."--crazy smart ideas which show a group of disconnected kids how to make their lives and themselves a true piece of art.Having spent a large part of my own childhood as a "military brat" (Sorry, dad...I know you don’t like that term--neither does this book’s author, seemingly, so you’re in good company...), Operation Yes really resonated with me, and I feel it provides a fascinating look for civilian kids into a virtually untapped setting and group of characters. I did find the initial pacing somewhat slow; it took a while to get to a real "plan" on any character’s part. The multiple POV’s may have accentuated this; to me, what propelled the story was the relationships, rather than any one character or plot element. On that note, however, the relationships were exceptionally well developed and believable. I loved the way the theme was exposed, and the improv theater stuff--so cool and original.On a final note, I have to offer my sincere thanks to Ms Holmes for so beautifully representing her character’s muddled thoughts regarding war. Long-time followers of this blog know how much it bothers me when an author uses her characters and plot as mere vehicles to forward an agenda; far to the contrary, I think Operation Yes offered a balanced, true presentation of how most kids stuck in the middle of it actually feel about war. Ms Holmes presents the facts, simple as that, followed by her character’s reactions to them, and allows her readers to draw their own conclusions. So, thank you!

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