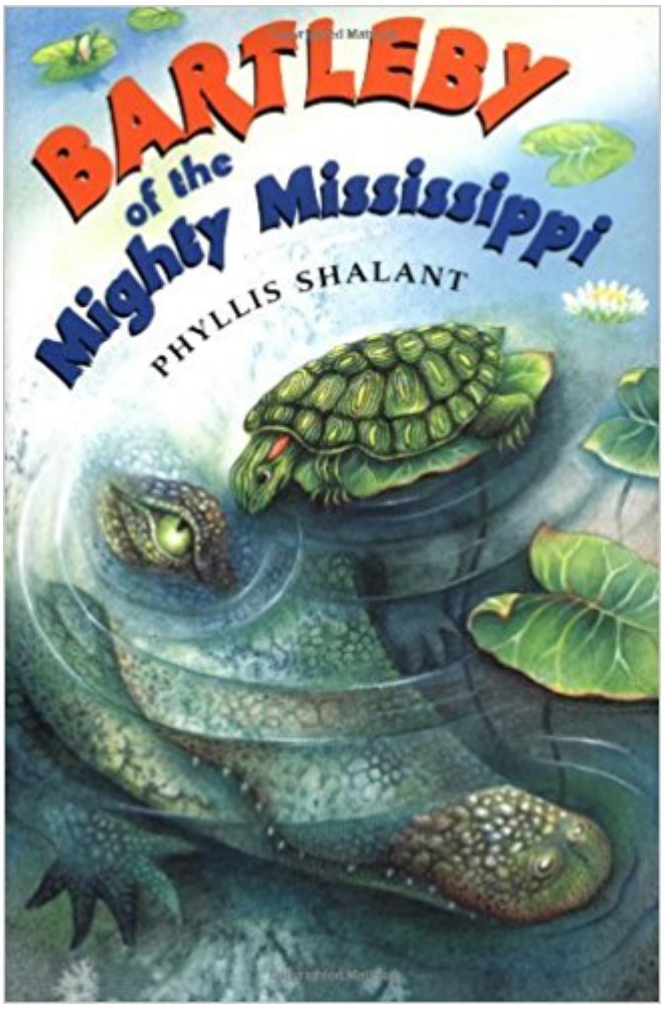
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Bartleby Of The Mighty Mississippi



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Synopsis

All Bartleby has known is the life of a pet--basking in his turtle bowl, eating lettuce, and being manhandled by the three boys who live with him. But when the boys watch a TV program about turtles from the Mississippi River, Bartleby sees one with red ear bands just like his. Is a great river his true home? Then the youngest boy accidentally leaves Bartleby at a nearby pond.Readers will respond with understanding as Bartleby learns to hunt, makes loyal friends, outsmarts dangerous foes, and discovers in himself strength, determination, and courage. For there is another discarded pet in the pond, an alligator who also hails from the Mississippi and wants to find his way back there. Bartleby has a great desire to seek the wild, rushing water that haunts his turtle naps. But can a small turtle hold his own with a gruff and growing alligator? Children will relish this imaginative novel with its marvelous characters and many-layered adventures.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 490L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 176 pages

Publisher: Dutton Juvenile; 1st edition (July 10, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0525460330

ISBN-13: 978-0525460336

Product Dimensions: 5.8 x 0.8 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #764,699 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #189 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Animals > Turtles #15533 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Action & Adventure #26637 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction

Age Range: 8 - 11 years

Grade Level: 3 - 6

Customer Reviews

Grade 3-6-Bartleby is a red-eared turtle, a pet living in a bowl in a house full of rambunctious brothers. His adventure begins when the youngest boy thoughtlessly throws him into a nearby pond for a swim. He quickly learns which of the other pond dwellers are his friends. The only enigma is the alligator, Seezer, another discarded pet that longs for its natural home, the mighty Mississippi River. "We had many ssscrumptious red-ears near my nest [back home]-" threatens the menacing

lizard. Yet, the creature is intrigued when, in order to save himself, Bartleby pretends to know the way to the Mississippi. An unlikely pair, Bartleby and Seezer set out together, and though there are many close calls, the determined little turtle ultimately gets them to a river that leads to their destination. Shalant's novel is a sweet, warm allegory about the pains of growing up. Bartleby struggles with staying away from his humans and feels the pain of heartache when they seem to abandon him. A gentle story with an ethical and likable main character dealing with his own uniqueness.Judith Everitt, Orchard Hill Elementary School, Skillman, NJ Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Gr. 4^-6, younger for reading aloud. Shalant introduces a four-legged hero with the right stuff: a small turtle with outsized funds of courage and resourcefulness. When his five-year-old human tormentor suddenly chucks him into a pond, Bartleby decides to head to the Mississippi, sparked by a glimpse on TV of other red-eared turtles along its shores. Shalant surrounds Bartleby with allies for his journey--Mother Wak the duck; Zip, a peeper who speaks in rhyme; and Seezer, a menacing ex-pet alligator with a yen to get back to his Mississippi home. Armed with a tough shell, a knack for making friends, and a real gift for fast talk, Bartleby survives repeated encounters with predators, meanwhile discovering a new sense of self-worth. Although the story ends with the long journey barely begun, there can be no doubt at all that the animals will make it. Tiny, tough, loyal, and canny, Bartleby is easily the most redoubtable animal character down the pike since Avi's Poppy. John PetersCopyright Ã Â© American Library Association. All rights reserved

Just as she remembered it when she was young...in great condition.

Bartleby of the Mighty Mississippi was a great book. The characters such as Mother Wak and Bartleby were perfect for the mood of the story and were well described. It was exciting from start to finish and is a great story for anyone of any age. The characters ranges from extremly funny (like the peeper Zip who alway speaks in ryhme) to really creapy (like the alagator Seezer), and at times and Bartleby's wit and quick thinking save him or his friends. I loved it! I have read almost all of Phyllis Shalant's books and this one by far is the best. For those who have read the other books by her this one is a must anf for those who are new to the author will love to start with the one. The suspense can almost kill you sometimes and force you to keep on turing page after page. You'll never want to put this book down! Read this book now!!

I really enjoyed reading this book because it was funny and had lots of rhymes. The characters were interesting and it was amazing to see a turtle survive when he had been living as a pet and travels with an alligator. The descriptions of the places Bartleby sees is very imaginative . I especially enjoyed the part when he was trying to save the duck eggs and when they hatched they thought Bartleby was a duck also. I was glad that it ended happy but it leaves you wondering about the rest of the journey. Perhaps there can be a sequel here?

I haven't seen my 4th grader delve into a book with such gusto since he read the Fudge series by Judy Blume. I found this title on a list of humorous books which boys like, and it truly lived up to its reputation.

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