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My Great Big Mamma



Synopsis

Size matters, according to this groundbreaking picture book – and in a good way. Here, a young boy describes his large mother in caring terms – her softness, her warmth, how comfortable and reassuring it is to sit on her lap on the bus. But when she goes on a diet – because of what people say, – he becomes a picky eater himself to show her how foolish she’s being. This remarkable book offers a charming and timely picture of a special relationship between a loving mother and the little boy who understands that people should be appreciated for who they are. Luc Melanson’s vibrant illustrations add resonance to this sweet story.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 3.4 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #3,086,332 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #80 in Books > Children’s Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Health > Weight #4652 in Books > Children’s Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Parents #8499 in Books > Children’s Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Emotions & Feelings

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

Customer Reviews

PreSchool-Grade 2 – A boy describes his supersize affection for his mother. Though others perceive her as "fat," the child revels in the comfort and safety that her body provides: "Her hands are pillows, her arms are bolsters. And her chest – as soon as I lay my head on her chest, I feel like falling asleep with a great big smile on my face." When the woman decides to go on a diet, the youngster struggles to understand why she eats small, unappealing portions. ("It’s like giving a tiny little bone to a huge dog. How silly.") Dreading the prospect of having "a skinny little mother," he finally convinces her that she is perfect just as she is. Mamma happily gives up her diet – "I

only did it because of other people" and equilibrium is restored in their relationship and in their household. The straightforward text clearly reflects a child's perspective of how a beloved parent looms large in his or her world and expresses the emotional satisfaction conveyed by a cuddle. Painted in deep hues of orange and green, the digital artwork features cartoon characters drawn with soft, rounded edges. The faces of both mother and son glow with warm emotion. If you can put the health-related obesity concerns aside, the book's message of nonjudgmental love is sweetly reassuring.

Joy Fleishhacker, School Library Journal Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

I stumbled upon this book completely by accident at the library. Being a "great big mama" myself, I was intrigued. When I read the book all the way through I was touched to the point of speechlessness; I had literally never in my life read a story that talked about people like me in such a loving, accepting way. I was near tears--tears of joy! We checked it out from the library and then I immediately got online to order a copy to keep for ourselves. My daughters love this book too. Even though they are young, they know that society sometimes "disapproves" of mommy being bigger, and it was validating to them too to see this book show a big mom loving her child and living life with joy and purpose. Even if you are not on the larger side yourself, this book sends an important message to kids about love and acceptance. If you are a larger woman (or man, for that matter) who has struggled with feeling looked down upon or pressured to change, this book might be healing and inspiring for you even if you don't have any kids. Wonderful, wonderful book for all ages.

This is the best book ever. Perfectly captures how a preschooler finds comfort and solace in mommy's soft cozy post-pregnancy body. Mommy has the rest of her life to lose weight, baby accepts her as she is. If you have a problem with that message then, yes, you should probably buy one of the other thousands of picture books out there.

Obesity kills! It's not cute or cuddly! I can not believe the storyline in this book about an obese mother that tries to go on a diet but quits because her kid does a little whining. Ok #1 who is the adult? The kid doesn't understand that if his mom doesn't lose weight she is doing to have all sorts of health problems and die prematurely! (the kid won't have those "soft arms" to snuggle in anymore then will he?) #2 where is the self-control? "Now every meal is a feast"???? I'm sorry, but with? We need to be teaching our children healthy habits not that it's ok to be fat if your happy!!!! Yes people shouldn't ridicule others, but I'm sorry you naturally draw attention when you are extremely different.

It is human nature to look at others that are different. Sorry it bothers you to be stared at, but you are a curiosity and people are interested in your looks.

Ridiculous and promotes obesity. I would never read this to my son. Write a book encouraging good exercise and eating habits for children instead of this tripe. If I could give it less stars I would.

This book makes me so happy. In a time when fat-hatred, shame, and stigma are not just accepted and unquestioned but encouraged, this is a sweet book about a kid who simply loves his mother and can see through all the silliness of dieting in the way only a child could.

An incredibly endearing children's book of a child who sees his mamma with so much love in his heart, he cannot imagine her any differently. What a sweet ending to the story. It brought me to tears--beautifully and whimsically illustrated. I wish I had a Great Big Mamma of my own. It was interesting to read as a Mom who compares myself to the other moms out there and feels the constant need to diet.

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