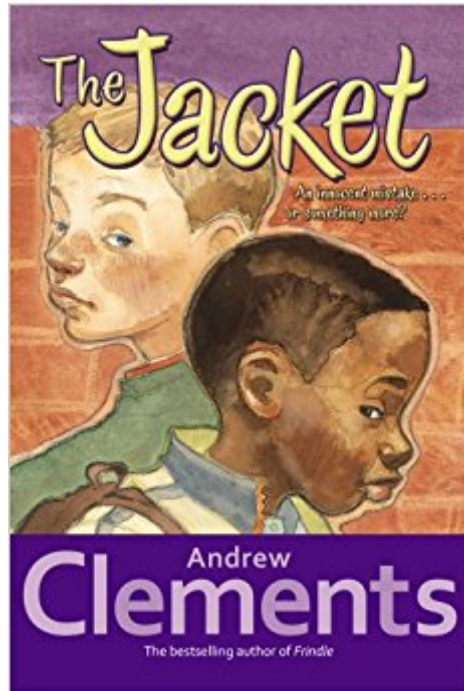




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The Jacket



Synopsis

Thief! When Phil sees another kid wearing his brother's jacket, he assumes the jacket was stolen. It turns out he was wrong, and Phil has to ask himself the question: Would he have made the same assumption if the boy wearing the jacket hadn't been African American? And that question leads to others that reveal some unsettling truths about Phil's neighborhood, his family, and even himself.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0640 (What's this?)

Series: McDougal Littell Library

Paperback: 96 pages

Publisher: Atheneum Books for Young Readers; Reprint edition (August 1, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0689860102

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Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.3 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 54 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #46,863 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #73 in Books > Children's Books >

Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Prejudice & Racism #205 in Books >

Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Values #593 in Books > Children's

Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > School

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

After wrongly accusing a boy--an African American boy--of stealing his brother's jacket, Phil--a white boy--has some hard thinking to do. And a tough question for his mom: "How come you never told me I was prejudiced?" This seemingly small school incident turns into a painful, but ultimately satisfying, learning opportunity for the sixth grader, as he explores the myriad influences in his life and the way his thought patterns have formed... and finds a new friend in the process. The intellectual evolution Phil goes through may be somewhat facile for a child his age, but Andrew Clements's message will undoubtedly hit home for many readers. This is exactly the kind of situation that arises every day in schools (and offices and buses) all over the world. Clements is the author of many highly acclaimed children's books, including *The Janitor's Boy* and *Frindle*. (Ages 8

to 12) --Emilie Coulter --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

Originally serialized in the Boston Globe, Clements's (Frindle; The School Story) brief, instructive tale centers on a sixth-grader who one day realizes that he is prejudiced. When Phil spies Daniel, an African-American schoolmate, wearing a jacket identical to one that his mother bought him in Italy (and that Phil had passed down to his younger brother), he assumes that Daniel has stolen the coat. After tussling in the hall, the two sort things out in the principal's office, where Daniel reveals that his jacket was a gift from his grandmother, Lucy; as it turns out, the woman who for years has cleaned Phil's house is Daniel's grandmother. Learning that the jacket now legitimately belongs to Daniel, Phil questions his actions ("What if Daniel had been a white kid? Would I have grabbed him like that?"). The lad's quandary deepens when he suddenly recognizes that his father is, quite blatantly, a bigot. Though lacking subtlety, the story pointedly delivers a timely message and can serve as a springboard for dialogue about tolerance and self-honesty. Clements makes his point without didacticism and with just the right amount of emotion. Ages 8-12. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

The jacket was a very well written book!! My only problems were that there were several typos. Also I think that it was a little stereotypical. I mean not all black people live in the bad part of town or don't have money. I would suggest some of his other books but overall it was an okay book.-Ellie S.-11years old

It was a short book and it was a short story. I mean, it was OK. Not the best one from Andrew Clements, not at all.

Works as expected.

Great wish list book from my son's Christmas list. Received very quickly as with everything else we receive from .

Good book and good lesson

Cheaper than in stores. A great book.

Excellent!!!

It's a good book with a good lesson too I like it allot it's a great book and he's a good.author

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