

Cosmic

Frank Cottrell Boyce

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This novel is centered on the adventure of a 12 year old called Liam. He is very tall and has a small beard, which makes people confuse him for an adult. The story starts with Liam talking to his parents by phone while he is on a spaceship. This start is confusing because the reader has no idea how and why Liam is on a spaceship, but this will be cleared up later in the plot. After the confusing start, the story becomes MUCH more interesting. Liam recalls events hilarious anecdotes of when adults treated him as an adult. This part of the book is what really hooked me to the book. As I read on, I became more accustomed to the author's conversational style of writing. Even though this book was written for children, I found the incidents very funny. This book also contains references to a popular computer game- World of Warcraft, which would be interesting to readers who play the game. Then, towards the climax of the story, the beginning starts to make much more sense, and there are small hints along the way for clarification. Liam, who was always complaining about his parents, has to pretend to be a father to one of his friends because he wants to participate in a space shuttle launch program.

I found the humor in this piece to be very appealing and almost laughed aloud at the various incidents that happen to Liam. The clever use of dialogue makes the story easier to read and not boring at all. I also noticed that even though the book is intended for amusement of the author, it does contain some facts about Space (facts about the Space Race during the Cold War), Geography (facts about foreign countries and places called Waterloo), and about physics (facts about gravity and G-Forces). Overall, this book is amusing and informational, and easy to read as well.

The only part I did not like about this book was how the beginning was confusing. A reader had to keep reading to understand what was really happening in the beginning of the book.

I feel like this book is most appropriate for older elementary school students or younger middle school student because it is too simple for a teenager, but too long for a young elementary school student who recently started reading. If a child was into space and astronauts, I would definitely recommend buying the book for him/her.

To readers of this book, I would recommend other books by Frank Cottrell Boyce, such as *Framed* and *Millions* because his style of writing is easy to read and funny. I would also recommend the *H.I.V.E* series for readers because this series contains plenty of action and futuristic devices.