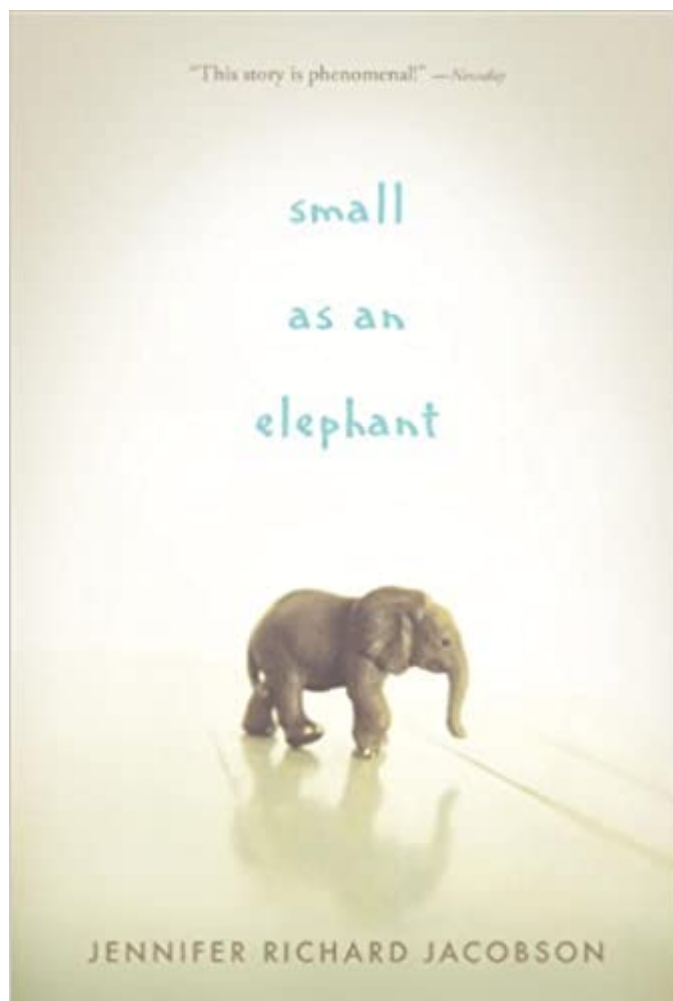


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# Small As An Elephant



## Synopsis

Jack's mom is gone, leaving him all alone on a campsite in Maine. Can he find his way back to Boston before the authorities realize what happened? Ever since Jack can remember, his mom has been unpredictable, sometimes loving and fun, other times caught in a whirlwind of energy and "spinning" wildly until it's over. But Jack never thought his mom would take off during the night and leave him at a campground in Acadia National Park, with no way to reach her and barely enough money for food. Any other kid would report his mom gone, but Jack knows by now that he needs to figure things out for himself - starting with how to get from the backwoods of Maine to his home in Boston before DSS catches on. With nothing but a small toy elephant to keep him company, Jack begins the long journey south, a journey that will test his wits and his loyalties - and his trust that he may be part of a larger herd after all.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 790L (What's this?)

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: Candlewick; Reprint edition (April 9, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0763663336

ISBN-13: 978-0763663339

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.8 x 7.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 210 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #85,483 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #45 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Homelessness & Poverty](#) #77 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Elephants](#) #92 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Illness](#)

Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 and up

## Customer Reviews

"I believe in Jack and his ability to understand his mother in shades of gray. I believe in his ability to be fiercely independent: to try and try and try . . . and at the same time to recognize that he needs others. That others are right there, waiting to catch him."- Jennifer Richard Jacobson

Quote

Jennifer Richard Jacobson is the author of several books for children and young adult readers, including the Andy Shane early chapter books, illustrated by Abby Carter. She lives in Cumberland, Maine.

A very arduous journey for a sweet-natured 11 yr old boy of a mother who is afflicted by bipolar I. Young Jack finds himself abandoned at a campground in Maine after having a heated argument with his mother the previous night. Upon awakening to his unwanted solitude, Jack begins his multi-goal'ed journey of finding his mother, evading authorities, and trekking home. Along the way, he's enriched and sustained by his travels, fears, curiosity, memories, and interests (elephants, for one!) sweet Jack's journey feels, at times, hopeless - for both him and the reader; but, don't worry too much!...all ends well in the end.

This book is really good there are lots of up' s and downs"Small as a elephant" is about a boy named Jack. His mother leave' s him with only \$14 a tent, sleeping bag,change of clothes, and backpack, NO FOOD,NO WATER,nothing . He take a terrorist hike from Maine to Jamaica plain,MA but first he has to make one stop. Lydia an elephant. She's not just an elephant she's the only elephant in Maine. He just has to see.Jack must steal work and lie to get to Lydia and get home. His BFF Nina thinks somethings wrong when he says to her on YOUNPAGE when he stops at Bar Harbour (one of the place his mom said they had to go it was on the list).So if you are looking for a page turner and adventurer than this is the right book for you. You may even cry and for the men that think oh am not going to cry YOU MOST LIKELY WILL!!

This book is a one of a kind treasure. The author goes the extra mile with investigating her setting to just bring this story to life. Btw-it is not about elephants.

I love this book because it has great word choice and lots and lots of action. The author does a great job of making you feel like your on the "vacation" with Jack. We're taking a summer trip to Maine and can't wait to visit some of the places the author has mentioned.I'm still in the process of reading this book, and I'm really enjoying it. The author does a great job making you feel like you are a part of the story. The book also has magnificent word choice. I'd highly recommend this book to anyone who likes realistic fiction.

Loved, loved, loved this book. Read it.

I absolutely loved this book. I read a lot of juvie-fiction (I'm a 5th grade teacher) and this was by far my favorite of my summer reading. This is the story about a kid dealing with the mental illness of a parent. As children do, he protects his mother, even when her behavior and neglect have taken everything away from him. Through sheer determination, he makes his way through the wilds of Maine and to a better life.

An intriguing book. As a mother, I had a difficult time reading it, my heart broke for the child in the story, but reminded me of the perseverance of children. Written about where I live. My son is loving this book and feels a connection to the boy, because he has camped at the Seawall Campground and we live a few minutes out of Bar Harbor. Interestingly, his view is not of abandonment of the mother, but he has lost his mother, as if by accident.

Was a good book about a boy and his journey alone and how he managed to survive... was a good read

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