



Harry and the Hot Lava (Xist Children's Books)

Chris Robertson

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Harry is a little boy with a big imagination. One day, a simple game of "don't step on the hot lava" turns into an adventure he'll never forget!

This children's picture book features the iconic art of Chris Robertson and has fun simple text perfect for beginning readers and storytime.

Harry and the Hot Lava (Xist Children's Books) Details

Date : Published July 15th 2014 by Xist Publishing

ISBN :

Author : Chris Robertson

Format : Kindle Edition 36 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books



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From Reader Review Harry and the Hot Lava (Xist Children's Books) for online ebook

Julie says

As a mother, I am familiar with the game that has my children setting up obstacle courses in the family room, and then jumping from couch to pillow to cushion to chair and back to the couch without touching the shark-infested water, or perhaps lava, that is the floor. It's a fun game ~ until they try to play it at the grocery store!

Harry and the Hot Lava is a sizzling new picture book by Chris Robertson about a little boy with a big imagination who loves to play this Hot Lava game too. But with Harry, we get to see the lava of his imagination in shocking color throughout the book. In addition to Harry's wonderful face and gestures, Robertson uses text in various shapes and sizes to add a whimsical and fun feel to the book. He really takes the reader into Harry's imaginative world.

This is a wonderfully simple picture book with vivid illustrations that will definitely appeal to young kids, especially those with an imagination like Harry's.

Marilou George says

Chris Robertson delivers an imaginative and playful tale of a boy named Harry, who is determined to avoid the hot lava that seems to be following him everywhere. The Author's illustrations are beautifully adapted to the story, and we can see and almost feel the hot lava as Harry struggles to make his way to the safety of his Mom.

The character of Harry is inspired by, and dedicated to, his son Benton; the author makes an appearance at the end of the book, joining in the fun and imaginative story. The author validates the importance of parents in helping their children to develop their imagination, and encouraging them by joining in the fun. I highly recommend this book for children and their parents as encouragement to spend time together in a world they create.

The most enjoyable times I had with my son when he was young were engaging in all his creative games, and just letting go and enjoying his company. These are truly the times my son and I will always remember.

JESSICA says

My two sons and husband love playing "Floor is lava!" So, it was nice surprise coming across this one. My 4 year old son loved this book! We read it twice. Short story with gorgeous illustrations.

Ian Wood says

This is the complete review as it appears at my blog dedicated to reading, writing (no 'rithmatic!), movies, & TV. Blog reviews often contain links which are not reproduced here, nor will updates or modifications to the blog review be replicated here. Graphic and children's reviews on the blog typically feature two or three images from the book's interior, which are not reproduced here.

Note that I don't really do stars. To me a book is either worth reading or it isn't. I can't rate it three-fifths worth reading! The only reason I've relented and started putting stars up there is to credit the good ones, which were being unfairly uncredited. So, all you'll ever see from me is a five-star or a one-star (since no stars isn't a rating, unfortunately).

I rated this book **WORTHY!**

This is a very short children's picture book, so there isn't a lot to review. It's about a kid with a delightfully wild imagination (he reminds me of my own kids whose imaginations, thankfully, have never deserted them even though they're now way too old for a book like this), who appears to be stranded amidst hot lava which is invading his home from all quarters. Can he leap to freedom? Where will he land? (You might be surprised!)

The drawings are rudimentary but very colorful, and really evocative. The book is as full of excitement and danger as Harry is full of ideas and wild descriptions, but he never panics, and is always planning his escape. This is definitely something your kids will want to play - perhaps after exploring what real lava looks like - not in person of course - but from the safety of a TV documentary or something on the web.

Who knows, perhaps you have a budding vulcanologist in your family? I recommend this book for a fun read alone, but it's also a great starting point for a chance to stir your child's imagination about the wonders of planet Earth and its geology and inner structure.

Of course, you don't want to load them up with learning, learning, learning and nothing else, so it occurs to me that a whole day could be themed around this as they're encouraged to explore the idea, starting with the book, then a video, then perhaps go looking for rocks in the yard or at the park (assuming your park isn't buried under snow at this point!), and imagine how hot things would have to be to melt an actual rock! You can have them practice their motor skills emulating Harry's escapes (with due safety precautions, of course!), have them develop confidence and cool-thinking skills, and also have them appreciate a little more the wonderful and complex planet on which we're all privileged to live.

Connie says

This is very good and the pictures are great, too!
Enjoy!

Stacie says

Harry and the Hot Lava is a whimsical tale of a little boy and his wildly imaginative adventure through a hot

lava river that has swept through his home.

This simple story takes "don't step on the crack..." to a whole new level. The author uses creativity and humor to capture the attention of young readers and the story is sure to become a treasure of children and parents alike. One of my favorite aspects of the story are the vividly colorful illustrations which are fun and engaging.

I am a big fan of Chris Robertson and his newest book Harry and the Hot Lava does not disappoint. Be sure to pick up your copy.

Dena (Batch of Books) says

There is no denying that I love Chris Robertson. I love his artwork and the way he captures childhood in the pages of a book. Harry and the Hot Lava is a charming picture book about a young boy with a wild imagination. Kids will love this simple story that depicts a common childhood game requiring nothing more than the desire to play. Kids will enjoy the familiar theme and the bright colors of the illustrations.

My kids are big fans of Chris Robertson and they always ask to read his books over and over again. His illustrations remind me of cartoons from when I was little, yet they are fresh and modern enough to appeal to my kids as well.

Honestly, you can't go wrong with one of Chris Robertson's books.

Source: The author sent a digital copy of this book to me in exchange for an honest review.

My blog: Batch of Books

Tonja Drecker says

Watch out! The hot lava's coming!!! Did you bounce from table to couch or pillow to pillow to escape hot lava as a kid? This story brings back those wonderful days of imagination (for us adults, at least). For kids, this is exactly the thing they love to play. Run! The hot lava's here!

This is a lovely story for children of all ages, which hits them in a world they understand - play time fantasy. The illustrations are colorful and fun to watch. . especially when Harry screams 'Hot Lava!' All my nieces and nephews squealed with delight and asked to read it again and again just so they could scream with Harry.

In other words. this is a terrific picture book that I can really recommend for all children. It's simply fun to read.

I received a free copy in exchange for an honest review.

Jessica S says

Disclaimer: I received a review copy from the author. This in no way affected my review, nor am I being compensated for it.

The first thing I noticed about this book, aside from the great pictures, was the word choice. It's great for children, and it really fits the story. Though the ever changing font was a bit jarring and sometimes unnecessary (in my opinion), it was a huge hindrance.

The ending was incredibly abrupt and felt a bit awkward. I think that was sort of the purpose, but I think it probably could have been done better. I have to say though, the last page of the story was awesome. I absolutely loved that, and I feel like it might stem from Robertson's own adventures and fun times with his son, to whom the book is dedicated.

My favorite aspect of the book would have to be how it made me remember the fun times I had as a child playing "Lava." While that version was a bit different from the one in this story, it was nice to reminisce about those times. To be honest, I didn't even think that kids these days played "Lava" anymore because I see so many of them with cell phones/smart phones already (what?!), so this was a nice way to see that there are some children out there that do still have extremely active imaginations and are learning to play without technology and only with what they have around them.

Another great picture book from Chris Robertson--one that's sure not to disappoint.

Sarah says

As a child I remember playing this game but as the world changes I can't honestly remember my children doing so. This and don't step on the cracks, such simple things that kept us occupied. Time for a revival I think.

Melki says

One of my favorite rainy day kid activities was navigating around the living room without once touching floor which was, of course, aboil with molten lava. This game, also known as Why-My-Parents-Couldn't-Have-Nice-Things (Seriously, how was I to know to stupid coffee table wouldn't support my weight? They never used it for coffee anyway!), was and *is* played universally, I suspect. It seemed to be a prominent part of my kids' playtime. The youngest still enjoys dunking elf-shaped cookies head first into "lava" that looks suspiciously like a glass of milk. (Their little elfish screams are pitiful, I tell you...)

Robertson is obviously familiar with the inner workings of his inner child and manages to capture this frenetic activity beautifully on the page.

It's impossible not to get caught up in all the excitement generated by Harry's wonderful imagination.

Now if you'll excuse me, I think I still might be able to make the leap from the couch to the love seat...

Renee says

Chris Robertson has written and illustrated a wonderfully whimsical picture book that has the main character, Harry, frantically attempting to avoid the hot lava which is flowing all over the floors in his house. We see Harry (inspired by the author's own son, Benton) ducking into the bathtub, jumping onto a coffee table, trying to balance on one unaffected tile in the kitchen, and cowering on the top bunk of a bunkbed trying to escape the dangerous red-hot liquid. Phew! Even I was nervous for the little boy in the story (don't worry, nobody gets harmed!)

The book features the amazing artistry of Chris Robinson who has most recently penned and illustrated the widely-acclaimed picture book *My Yellow Umbrella*. In his distinctive style, Robertson has us leaping, ducking, and carefully avoiding "the hottest most dangerous liquid known to man" along with Harry. **FANTASTIC ILLUSTRATIONS!** As an extra delight, the author even makes a cameo appearance in the book at the very end.

My Bottom Line:

Harry and the Hot Lava is a wonderfully-illustrated and highly imaginative journey into the mind of Harry, a young boy playing "don't step in the lava" – a timeless game with many variations, gleefully played by children all over the world. I highly recommend this clever book to children ages 3 to 8 and encourage parents to feed their own imaginations and join their kids in a game of "Don't Step In The Lava!"

Leslie H De Jesus says

She liked it

Good fun read helps little ones see the power in imagination and play maybe we will move from being pirates on the ocean after this one.

Hollygolightly74 says

Super cute and simple!

Great for all ages. My kiddo loves lava and I like that this reinforces imaginary play like this. Highly recommended,

Lynda Dickson says

Harry is a little boy with a big imagination. (I wrote that before I read the book description, and I'm keeping it!) Join Harry as he battles his way through the perilous fields of lava. Who will save him?

Like the author's fabulous "My Yellow Umbrella", "Harry and the Hot Lava" celebrates childhood imagination and play, but this time from a boy's point-of-view. And of course, boys love adventure. Full of the author-illustrator's wonderful images and graphics, this book is sure to become a favorite with your little guy ... or girl. Just out of interest, Harry is based on the author's son, and the author himself also makes an appearance.

Another winner!

I received this book in return for an honest review.
