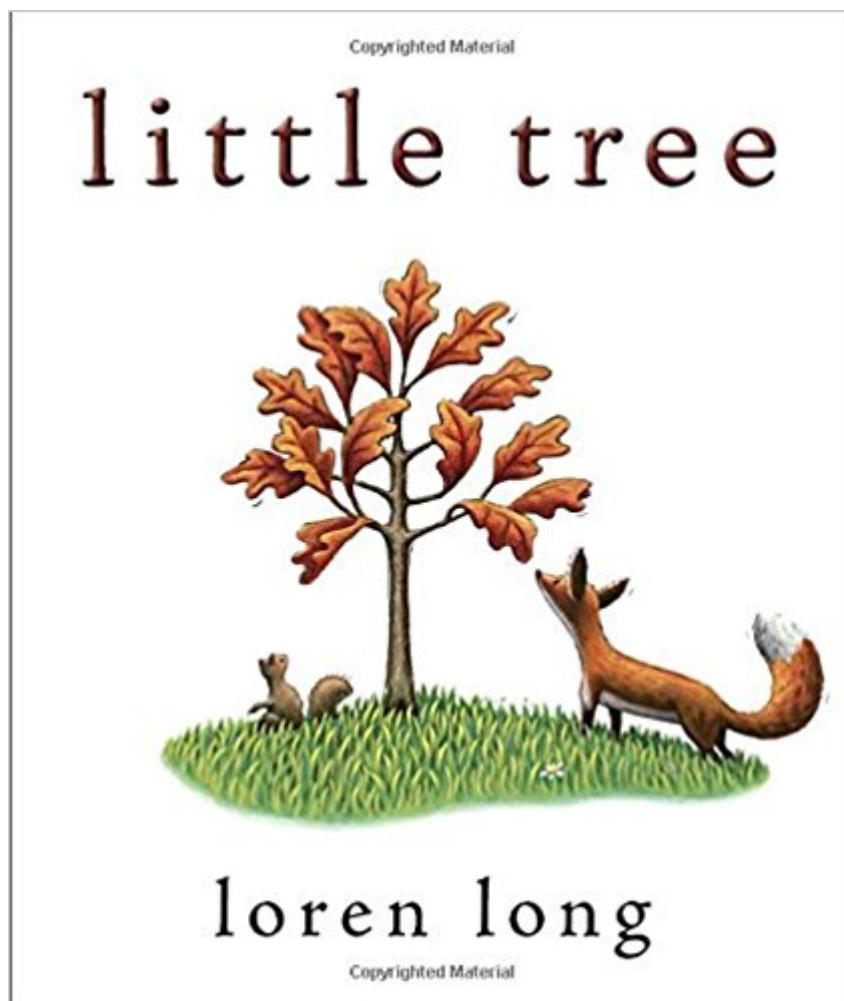


The book was found

# Little Tree



## Synopsis

For graduates, for their parents, for anyone facing change, here is a stunningly heartfelt ode to the challenges of growing up and letting go. A story as poignant for parents as for their kids, from the creator of *Otis* the tractor and illustrator of *The Little Engine that Could*. "Longâ™s gentle but powerful story about a young tree who holds tight to his leaves, even as everyone else lets theirs drop, takes on nothing less than the pain and sorrow of growing up. . . . As in Longâ™s unaccountably profound books about *Otis* the tractor, a pure white background somehow adds to the depth."â "The New York Times Book Review In the middle of a little forest, there lives a Little Tree who loves his life and the splendid leaves that keep him cool in the heat of long summer days. Life is perfect just the way it is. Autumn arrives, and with it the cool winds that ruffle Little Tree's leaves. One by one the other trees drop their leaves, facing the cold of winter head on. But not Little Treeâ "he hugs his leaves as tightly as he can. Year after year Little Tree remains unchanged, despite words of encouragement from a squirrel, a fawn, and a fox, his leaves having long since turned brown and withered. As Little Tree sits in the shadow of the other trees, now grown sturdy and tall as though to touch the sun, he remembers when they were all the same size. And he knows he has an important decision to make. From #1â New York Timesâ bestselling Loren Long comes a gorgeously-illustrated story that challenges each of us to have the courage to let go and to reach for the sun. Praise for *Little Tree*\* "The illustrations are beautifully rendered . . . Understated and inviting, young readers will be entranced by Little Treeâ™s difficult but ultimately rewarding journey."â Booklist, starred review "Longâ™s gentle but powerful story about a young tree who holds tight to his leaves, even as everyone else lets theirs drop, takes on nothing less than the pain and sorrow of growing up. Season after season, Little Tree clings to his brown-leaved self until he can take a leap and shed his protection. He feels â "the harsh cold of winter,â™ but soon grows tall and green, and itâ™s not bad at all. As in Longâ™s unaccountably profound books about *Otis* the tractor, a pure white background somehow adds to the depth."â "The New York Times Book Review\* "[Long's] willingness to take his time and even test the audienceâ™s patience with his arboreal heroâ™s intransigence results in an ending thatâ™s both a big relief and an authentic triumph. Longâ™s earnest-eloquent narrative voice and distilled, single-plane drawings, both reminiscent of an allegorical pageant, acknowledge the reality of the struggle while offering the promise of brighter days ahead."â Publishers Weekly, starred review "Long is sparing with the text, keeping it simple and beautifully descriptive. Brilliantly colored illustrations done in acrylic, ink, and pencil stand out on bright white pages, with Little Tree taking the center position in each double-page spread. Tender and gentle and altogether lovely."â Kirkus Reviews "Children will see

the tree facing the scariness of change; adult readers may well feel wistful as the story underscores the need to let their babies grow toward independence. Beautiful. Grade: A"â "Cleveland Plain Dealer

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 0580 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

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ISBN-13: 978-0399163975

Product Dimensions: 9.4 x 0.4 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (30 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #21,622 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #40 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Environment #122 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > New Experiences #395 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## **Customer Reviews**

This book has so much emotion... and it's about a TREE!This is so beautiful. Here are four reasons I know it's beautiful:I cried the first four times I read it.I cried as I was telling some adult friends about it at a conference this weekend.I cried when I shared it with my three teenagers.I did NOT cry writing this review... but I almost did. :)Read it. DO IT. Seriously. It is BEAUTIFUL.

Loren Long has created a truly beautiful look at the seasons with this gem. An excellent choice for story time or the classroom, the author uses a spare, sometimes lyrical text to tell a story of one little tree that is afraid to let go. All young story listeners will be able to identify with the fear of change, and will easily understand this little tree's reluctance to let go of his leaves when the seasons change and all of his fellow trees seem to be moving on without him. The book exudes an atmosphere of caring and concern as the animals wonder if the tree is feeling sick, and try to encourage him to let go. It's only when the little tree realizes that he can no longer see the sky

because his fellow trees have grown so large, that he decides to let go. The final spread provides a nice pay off as we see the little tree finally as big as his fellows and embracing the seasonal changes. Long's illustrations are quite stunning. His charming depictions of both trees and animals really pop against an abundance of white space. He perfectly conveys the changing seasons with forest scenes that make you feel the chilling cold of winter and the lushness of summer. Little Tree has a ton of personality, which is surprising as he has no features. This story will serve as an intro to seasonal change or just a fun fable about nature and letting go. Little Tree is a new classic and an enthusiastic recommend for story time, classroom use, or any young child's personal collection.

This is a simple yet meaningful story of a Little Tree who doesn't want to lose its leaves. As the seasons progress, and other trees grow, the Little Tree just hugs its original leaves tight. Eventually, the tree learns that to move forward into the future, first, we have to let go of the past. This can be a complex and challenging lesson for children to learn (and even adults). My children love to hear me read this lovely fable as a bedtime story, with a reassuring lesson for my whole family, as we all face the uncertain changes and certain challenges of growing older.

I found Little Tree by Loren Long at the library. My girls love Long's *Otis* books, so I brought this book for them to enjoy. Little Tree is the story of a- wait for it- little tree. He is very happy to be amongst the other trees, and loves when the animals come around to play. The weather gets colder, and the other trees shed their leaves, but Little Tree is afraid. He clings to his leaves. As the seasons change, the other trees grow taller; Little Tree stays the same size, with his brown leaves. Will Little Tree ever drop his leaves? The illustrations are bright and colorful. Long makes wonderful use of color, and it's easy to tell which season it is based on the color of the leaves and by looking at the forest floor. The animals have been rendered in a realistic style. The animals are not anthropomorphic, so there is less of an emphasis on their facial expressions, but they do approach Little Tree with curiosity and concern. This was a lovely little story. I loved the theme of letting go- being a necessary part of moving on/growing up. Little Tree refuses to let go of his leaves, and so he is unable to grow. My girls were very concerned about Little Tree; "He's so little," they said. "Why doesn't he grow like the other trees?" I would absolutely recommend Little Tree. This book will appeal to preschoolers and children in the early years of elementary school. There is not as much action in Little Tree as there is in Long's *Otis* books, and that's okay. This is a thoughtful and introspective book, and my girls enjoyed reading it.

This story is about a little tree that is afraid of change (to let it's leaves fall) and he holds onto them through the season, but he soon realizes he misses out on all the benefits of change. Very cute story and beautiful artwork.

This book is wonderful!!! It discusses about the fear of letting go and how that can prevent one from growing and moving forward. Even adults can take away meaning from this book. I have bought this for a gift for a couple of friends' childrens and recommended to some teachers. Definitely worth adding to your child's personal library collection or to the classrooms.

This book by Loren Long, the same author/illustrator as the 'Otis' books, includes the most gorgeous illustrations and sweetest stories for young children and adults, alike. Quick shipping, packaged carefully. Thank you for a great transaction.

I was drawn to this book by the clean, simple, beautiful illustrations. I decided to buy it because of the clean, simple, beautiful story. It is about a tree, but the text is so simple that it can be easily related to any family problem you may be discussing. After the first read and talk about the surface story, I told my 4YO what it reminds me of, a "growing up" issue she's been struggling with. We read through it again and every line of every page fit with our parallel story. It was gentle, positive encouragement to just let go, and you will grow up happy and healthy. Just what we needed.

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