



The Boy Who Carried Bricks: A True Story

Alton Carter , Janelda Lane (Illustrator)

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The Boy Who Carried Bricks: A True Story Details

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From Reader Review The Boy Who Carried Bricks: A True Story for online ebook

Robin Prevallet says

WOW! What a powerful window into the lives of some of our students and our power as teachers to shine a little light into their harsh lives. My hope is that every teacher will read this book as reminder of what some kids are dealing with. I hope that every child living through similar circumstances will read this book and be inspired to continue to work hard and not lose hope. I hope that every child that has a great home life will read this book and be reminded to be grateful and kind to their fellow classmates. You never know what battles others have battled and are still battling.

I went to school with the author, and it breaks my heart to know that he was suffering and I didn't have any idea what he was gonna no through. I'm extremely proud of him.

Tina says

EVERY teacher should read this book AND anyone who works with children. It was recommended to my by a great friend. Alton should not have endured many of things he had to live through! I wish there was an easy answer to fixing "the system". He mentions several times in the book that an act of kindness by many unknowing people got him through all the terrible things in his life. While reading I thought back to several of the kids in my class, did I do enough for them as a teacher? Could I have done more? Will I try to do better in the future? YES!!

Brett Allred says

This book is special as it was written by a friend and a person who has overcome more obstacles imaginable. He was supposed to be one of those that fell through the cracks and ended up dead or in jail. His story is inspirational and gives hope to others

This book has a roller coaster of emotions, happy, sad, angry, helpless and happiness at the ending as that is the best part.

Teresia Harrison says

I read this book in two settings and was mortified at not only the home experience of Alton and his siblings but the sad situation of some of the DHS placements he endured. This book will bring awareness to the need for loving foster homes and more than anything, for social change. I am so glad I took the time to read this and recommend it to readers from middle school through adult.

Melissa Moore says

While this book was emotionally difficult to read, it was worth every bit of the discomfort. It's a painful glimpse at how many foster children experience life. Yes, it would be great for all teachers & social workers to read, but also all adults. It shows how just a few kind words can affect a child who rarely hears or sees kindness in daily life.

Jill Cd says

Inspirational, heart-wrenching, and insightful, this true story of perseverance and positivity will captivate mature readers. A great book for educators to read as well.

Srosch says

Inspiring book for any educator who works with children who have had trauma in their lives. An important read to remember that no matter what we have the ability to inspire, to motivate and to build solid relationships because sometimes we are all that someone has.

Grandpa Joe says

This book is very interesting from page 1 all the way through. It tells the story of Alton Carter, a black born in 1970 to a dysfunctional, one-parent, impoverished family in which crime, drugs, and jail time was not unknown, and was occasionally abusive, especially at the hands of one particular uncle. From an early age, Alton Carter, for reasons he may not understand, and unlike the rest of his family, wanted something better for himself.

In a straight-forward manner, Alton tells us the story of his childhood, the ups and the downs. It is an insightful and penetrating insight into a life as it exists "on the other side" for all too many impoverished Oklahoma youths.

Jan Cole says

If I could have given 6 stars I would have. This is an inspirational story of a boy who went through the foster care system in Oklahoma in the not so distant past. Despite a horrific homelife, and many brutal experiences in the system, he had a goal to have a nice life and to be someone some day. He taught himself to respond positively in many negative circumstances and took advantage of the mentors who came in and out of his life.

The chapters are short, the writing is descriptive without being overwhelmingly sad. I couldn't put this down and finished it in one day. But before I finished, I ordered the sequel from Amazon. You'll find a copy in two places at the Duncan Public Library: One in Young Adult nonfiction; one in Adult nonfiction. Read it--you

won't be sorry.

Nicole Sterling says

This book was recommended by a friend who knows the author through their church, and all of the events in the book took place less than 70 miles from where we grew up. It was shocking to read about such horrible abuse in his home, but as we all know, that unfortunately happens all over the country, and all over the world. What was so distressing and disheartening was the way it was overlooked by DHS for so many years, and how many of the places Alton was sent to get away from that life were actually just as abusive. Again, you hear stories, but to read his firsthand account of this and know it all happened so close to home really made it seem worse to me. While much of the book recounts the abuse & the torment he went through, Alton also makes sure to point out those angels who were there to help him, and who gave him hope that all was not lost. It was thanks to that hope that he was able to pull himself out of the cycle of addiction & abuse that he grew up in, and make his life into something to be proud of.

I would definitely recommend this book, but there are a few editing issues every now & then, so heads up if that bothers you. Nothing major, just an occasional "worse" instead of "worst," and "conscious" instead of "conscience," that sort of thing. It's fairly rare, so it doesn't make the book unreadable or anything. As the author himself says, hopefully no matter what your circumstances, you should be able to get something from this book. Maybe you realize those kind words you thought about saying really would make a difference, maybe you decide to foster, maybe you decide to give someone with a rough history a chance, maybe you have that history and you need hope. This book can give you that.

Annie says

Heartbreaking but inspirational story. Hard to read but needs to be.

Jason says

An inspirational true story that is tough to read at times because of how much hardship is portrayed. At times, I was moved to tears. I wish this book were a bit more polished and literary, but it was still excellent. This book is relevant to me because it takes place in my home state of Oklahoma, and the author is going to speak to my school district.

Gretchen Clarkson says

My daughter's entire school is reading this so I wanted to read it as well. I couldn't put it down!! Heart wrenching and honest...

Tammy says

I decided to buy this book because I live in the same town as the author and have met him a couple of times. Seeing who he is in the community today I would have never guessed what a terrible childhood he had. I am just amazed at all he has overcome and wish him continued success in the future. The book is easy to read and the author spares no details. I think if it gets into the right hands it could certainly make a positive difference in some peoples lives which is the ultimate goal of the author. I wish him success in this goal as well!

Anna Hargrave says

I do not recommend for kids (was in the kids section of the library)—it is mostly vivid description of the abuse he suffered as a child, with a few positive role model stories. However anyone working with kids could greatly benefit from reading his accounts of the various adults in his life, especially how the helped and how they failed him.
