



2009

### Cosmic

Megan Harris

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Boyce, Frank Cottrell. *Cosmic*. Walden Pond Press, 2008. ISBN 9780061836831. \$16.99. 313 p.

Reviewer: Tessa McMillan

Reading Level: Intermediate, Young adult

Rating: Excellent

Genre: Adventure stories;

Subject: Outer space --Exploration--Juvenile fiction; Stature, Tall--Juvenile fiction; Books--

Reviews

Liam Digby is six-foot tall, has sprouting facial hair, and he is only twelve years old. Even though he tires of the constant tall jokes, Liam realizes that grown-ups are mistaking him for an adult. With the help of his friend Florida, the two children pretend to be a father-daughter couple and get into more adult situations, like test driving a car. After getting caught, Liam can only spend his time playing with the DraxWorld search program on his cell phone. One day he receives a call regarding his cell phone searches. The caller thinks he's his father and asks him strange questions about being a dad. But from that odd phone call, both Liam and Florida are taken on a strange adventure to China where a special space theme park is being created. Only the rides really do go out into space. Liam, Florida, and three other children are trained to take a trip out into space. What was supposed to be a ten hour site-seeing trip to space turns into a disastrous adventure. By working together, the children get back to Earth again. Liam still keeps his age and the space mission a secret.

Boyce's story is witty and has surprises on each page. Liam's predicament of being mistaken for an adult is believable. With Liam's character, Boyce is able to successfully put across Liam's mature and immature personality without turning readers off. This story would be a great read-a-loud book for the classroom or home. This book can be a useful tool when teaching a unit on space and space travel.

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