



2019

The Library of Ever

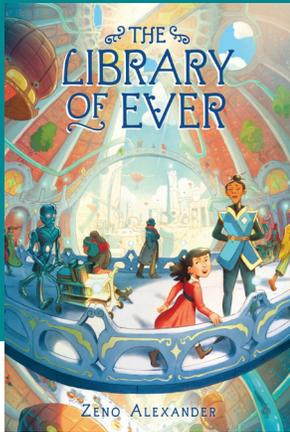
Jessica Mellor

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Book Review

The Library of Ever

Author

Zeno Alexander

Reviewer

Jessica Mellor

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Rating

Excellent

Level

Primary, Intermediate

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Pages

191

Year

2019

ISBN

9781250169474

Publisher

Imprint

After Lenora's parents leave on a trip, she's left with her inattentive nanny. Boredom awaits until they stop for a trip at a library and she finds the most exciting adventure of all. Through a secret doorway, Lenora finds herself in the Library of Ever and quickly decides to join as a librarian. The life of a librarian is full of surprises, what with time-traveling to the year 8000, shrinking to the size of an ant, and even talking to penguins. Through all her adventures, the forces of darkness are out to stop truth and knowledge. It's only with the help of her friends that Lenora can combat evil and find her way back to the library.

A mix of *The Magic School Bus* and *Alice in Wonderland*, this book has many fantastical elements as Lenora travels to miraculous places. The flair of magic and the impossible is used to bring out real life facts, teaching in a way that is fun yet still educational. Zeno Alexander has done his research and it shows as readers learn information and trivia about calendars, space travel, and even tardigrades. On the surface, the forces of darkness seem just like your normal villain, but they present an argument about restricting library books they see as disturbing. Their argument is that limiting books will make these children make future discoveries, and making this laughable assertion allows Lenora to swoop in and have a speech on how truth is more important than limiting knowledge. Thus this book addresses interesting themes like how libraries should not be businesses and how people should not be able to ask for books to be removed based on their content.