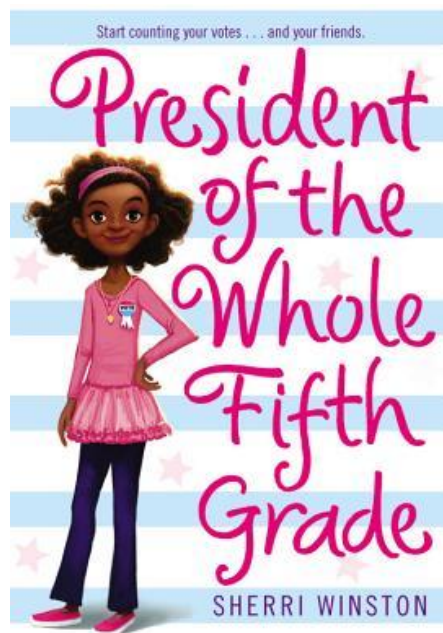




President of the Whole Fifth Grade

Sherri Winston

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Start counting your votes . . . and your friends.

When Brianna Justice's hero, the famous celebrity chef Miss Delicious, speaks at her school and traces her own success back to being president of her fifth grade class, Brianna determines she must do the same. She just knows that becoming president of her class is the first step toward her own cupcake-baking empire!

But when new student Jasmine Moon announces she is also running for president, Brianna learns that she may have more competition than she expected. Will Brianna be able to stick to her plan of working with her friends to win the election fairly? Or will she jump at the opportunity to steal votes from Jasmine by revealing an embarrassing secret?

This hilarious, heartfelt novel will appeal to any reader with big dreams, and the determination to achieve them.

President of the Whole Fifth Grade Details

Date : Published October 2nd 2012 by Little, Brown Books for Young Readers (first published January 1st 2010)

ISBN : 9780316114332

Author : Sherri Winston

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Genre : Childrens, Middle Grade, Realistic Fiction, Fiction, Academic, School

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From Reader Review President of the Whole Fifth Grade for online ebook

katarzyna says

This book would be great for elementary and/or middle school readers. It's engaging and fun. The main character, Brianna, and her family are fleshed out really well but the side school characters are a bit one-dimensional, such as Brianna's group of basically interchangeable stock friends. Maybe the author is planning a series where each girl gets her own book in which the reader gets to know her because the book does have that breezy, Baby-Sitters Club feel to me and would serve as a good intro to a whole series.

Brianna is a great role model for readers and learns some lessons along the way so the story definitely has lots of positive messages. It might even get kids interested in presidential history since little facts about various U.S. presidents are woven in throughout the narrative. Its also awesome that Brianna is a black girl because the reader gets to see a black girl in a leadership position in a starring role in a book since unfortunately these stories don't get published at the same rate as kids lit with other heroes/heroines. This would be an excellent addition to a classroom library in terms of representation as well as plot.

Anyway, the reason I gave 4 stars over 5 is that I agree with the reviews that say it crammed in a little too much and parts of the story got a bit boring. As an adult, I'm not the target demographic here, so hopefully kids wouldn't agree on the "boring" assertion, but I just worry that struggling readers in particular might tire of the story and get turned off when some of the election shenanigans get repetitive and dragged out. Fast, eager readers would probably just zip through either way. With appropriate scaffolding and support, though, I think struggling readers would enjoy the book, too.

Mercedez says

It is

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C. says

I was curious about this book because it was on a summer reading list in my town. The text, which includes: presidential trivia, delicious cupcake recipes, and an inspiring message, was a delight to read.

Favorite quote "...the best recipe for success was one that included all the right ingredients: staying true to yourself, following a plan that makes sense, and trusting the ones you love."

Anna Traasdahl says

This book was pretty good. I could tell I didn't like it very much just because I am getting a little too old for

it but it was worth it to read it.

Raina says

Took this out to the elementary schools in May/June 2016.

Just wanna add my evidence - you know that myth that nobody wants to read a book with a black person on the cover? Totally totally wrong. I let the kids pick out which books I talk about, and this one was picked a lot. Often by mirror kids, but not always.

I started out by asking the kids what job they wanted to have when they grow up, and this was one of my favorite parts of outreach visits this season. I would go around the entire room of kids if I could. I love looking at them and imagining them as grown-up vets, or professional basketball players, or youtubers, or whatever.

I rushed reading and promoting this book so that I could feature it during a presidential election year.

I wasn't completely charmed by it, or sucked in - Brianna's drama is very kid-level, and as a grown-up, I saw logical fallacies a few times. I'm trying to decide if it's smart or lazy that the cupcake recipes included all require a cake-mix (they sound delicious anyway). But it is what it's trying to be. I like that it's one of the longest books I took out. It's didactic, yes, but pretty much always in a good way.

Fiction State Of Mind says

I really loved this book. I wanted to support it because the main character was a POC and because this was prominently displayed on the cover. Young Brianna Justice has a plan. She has been working on her goal to be cooking show star and millionaire like her idol Miss Delicious. When Brianna learns that her idol not only attended her school but was president of the Fifth Grade. Thus begins Brianna's campaign, where she will learn about friendships, how power can corrupt and about forgiveness. A wonderful read! I'm so glad this series exists in the world!

Jnase1 says

Brianna Justice has had a goal since fourth grade, to become president of her fifth grade class, ever since she heard her hero the famous chef Miss Delicious, was also class president. Brianna also hopes to one day own her own bakery where she can sell her delicious cupcakes. But at the beginning of her fifth grade year, it is decided that the person elected will become president of the whole fifth grade of the entire school and will decide how to spend the grade level's budget. Brianna is even more determined to become president when a new girl, Jasmine Moon, shows up and begins to take away Brianna's friends and possibly her chance at being president of the whole fifth grade. Will she succeed in meeting her goal or will Jasmine destroy her and her friendships? This is a book about setting and reaching your goals, and what you have to do along the way to make sure that you reach them.

Kathy says

Not much here. So many better stories for this age group.

Mari says

I liked a lot about this book, but there were a few things that got in the way of me loving it. I think younger readers will like it more than I did.

What I liked:

- The smart spunky main character.

What was OK:

- The plot - not super exciting, but certainly the kind of thing that a 5th grader could relate to.

What I didn't like:

- I often felt the 'educational bits' were a little forced and didactic.
- The dialog didn't always work for me.

I'm looking forward to reading more by this author to see how her writing grows and changes over time.

Emmaleigh says

This book had a very strong female lead and I believe would speak well to the audience it is written for. As a fifth grade teacher I was very excited for this book because there were several areas where fifth graders will be able to relate. Holding the elections and the connections with U.S. History was great and how the author pulled in historical figures and connected it to modern issues and in a way that the elementary audience would understand. Also, as a Michigan native it was great to see a few links to home.

However, I was disappointed with how some of the story was written. Majority of the issues in the story could have been left out and the main points would have still been strong and shown through. It was a lengthy book and I found myself getting boring and waiting for the heroine to finally get to the ending that we all knew was coming. Although I think it is important to remember I am writing this from an adults perspective and this is written for a younger audience. I am looking forward to hearing what my students have to say about this book!

Lori Zitzelberger says

My sixth grader and I enjoyed it. We will read the sequel. I liked that while they were kids, the main character had aspirations of being in business for herself as a baker, rather than the normal little girl dreams of being a singer, dancer, etc. It was also interesting to see author's attempt to weave history lessons into the storyline.

Natalie Tobar says

this book is very pleasant i really enjoyed it. It's about Brianna becoming president of the 5th grade, and

accomplishing her dream. I recommend this book to people who like to bake.

Roy says

There is plenty in this book that I found to like. It features an ambitious African American girl who sets no limitations on her future. Those ambitions are not superficial things like being a movie star or pop star, or hoping to marry her favorite movie/pop star. Not only does she have serious entrepreneurial aspirations but also practical plans for how to begin moving towards them. It starts with becoming President of her grade at school. Enter a conniving rival who is willing to stoop as low as necessary to throw a monkey wrench in these plans. Enter an ally who encourages her to put ambition ahead of ethics. Eventually Brianna learns that ambition is as noble as the path one takes to make their dreams come true. If success comes at the expense of losing loyal friends and losing respect for yourself, can it be considered true success? Brianna Justice's attitude towards education is refreshing. Learning is promoted as interesting and fun rather than imposed drudgery. This is a girl with a good head on her shoulders and eyes firmly set on the prize. I applaud the messages of this story but feel that the execution could have been a little tighter. There was also one too many easily found "deep dark secrets" lying around for convenient plot machination. I'm not the intended audience of this book though. My 8 year old daughter loved it from beginning to end. There's much to be said for satisfying your target reader above and beyond anyone else. #WeNeedDiverseBooks

Jamya says

i think this book is awesome most inspiring and fascinating book I'm in fifth grade now i read it in 3rd grade I'm a goal reader at my school and this book inspired me to be more challenging

love,jamya brown write more books

Miri says

There are a lot of things about this book that I really liked, most importantly that it had a non-white protagonist as well as supporting characters. *That's* refreshing. The characters were totally un-stereotyped by gender as well as race, and it just made me feel comfortable with them. I loved the path Brianna took, the lessons she learned, and how creative she was for a fifth grader. I did roll my eyes a bit at the inclusion of recipes, but at least they were relevant to the story (and those cupcakes did sound delicious).
