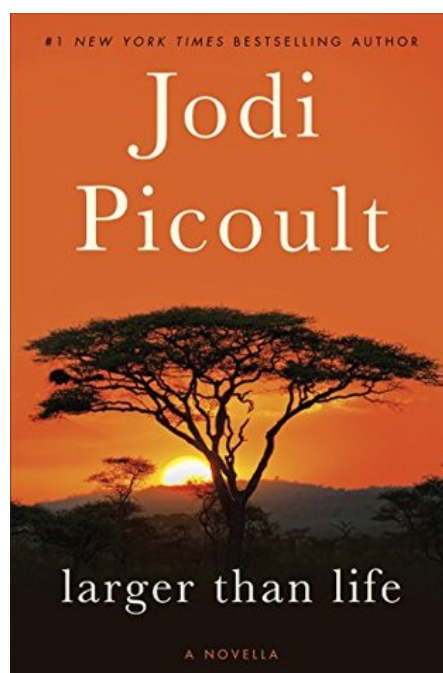




## Larger Than Life

*Jodi Picoult*

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# Larger Than Life

Jodi Picoult

## Larger Than Life Jodi Picoult

From Jodi Picoult, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Storyteller* and *My Sister's Keeper*, comes a gripping and beautifully written novella, now available exclusively as an eBook. Set in the wilds of Africa, *Larger Than Life* introduces Alice, the unforgettable character at the center of Picoult's anticipated new novel, *Leaving Time*.

A researcher studying memory in elephants, Alice is fascinated by the bonds between mother and calf—the mother's powerful protective instincts and her newborn's unwavering loyalty. Living on a game reserve in Botswana, Alice is able to view the animals in their natural habitat—while following an important rule: She must only observe and never interfere. Then she finds an orphaned young elephant in the bush and cannot bear to leave the helpless baby behind. Thinking back on her own childhood, and on her shifting relationship with her mother, Alice risks her career to care for the calf. Yet what she comes to understand is the depth of a parent's love.

## Larger Than Life Details

Date : Published August 4th 2014 by Ballantine Books (first published January 1st 2014)

ISBN :

Author : Jodi Picoult

Format : Kindle Edition 78 pages

Genre : Fiction, Short Stories, Novella, Contemporary

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## From Reader Review Larger Than Life for online ebook

### Lisa says

Love the audio version for this ! This is a short story that goes along with the book "Leaving Time".

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### Marleen says

It's been some years since I last read a book by Jodi Picoult. I like most of her stories, but not all. I was pleasantly surprised by this well-written and well-documented short story that took me on a journey to Botswana and South Africa and introduced me to the world of elephants, which was truly fascinating. We follow the young neuro-scientist and doctor in animal behavior, Alice Metcalf, who was pushed by her mother to become a great academic. Instead of a great career stateside, Alice leaves for Africa to study elephants. She goes to great lengths to advocate for these amazing animals instead of simply making notes of her findings, dispassionately, as a scientist should. However, Alice can't help but being emotional when it comes to these wonderful creatures. Then there's also Alice's relationship with her mother, which wasn't an easygoing relationship.

Greater than Life's an interesting and educational novella – and all in all, it's hard to give so much content in a limited amount of pages. So credit goes to the writer.

I look forward to Leaving Time, the full novel about Alice Metcalf and her family.

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### Lisa says

I love Jodi Picoult. But this story truly stands out. Set in Africa with multiple references to South Africa, Setswana and nature conservation here, this book feels warm and familiar.

O, and Lesego rocks!

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### Tania says

A quick easy read. If you enjoyed Lone Wolf, you will like this prequel. Loads of interesting facts on elephants.

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### Kate says

3.5/5

A short story that depicts the remarkable herd behaviours of elephants and how they socialize with each other and their care givers.

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## Alaina Meserole says

So I totally read this book out of order because I had no idea it was a prequel to another book. YEAH, I definitely live under a rock.

*Larger Than Life* was so freaking good. I just loved the elephants in *Leaving Time* so getting more of them made me even happier while reading this book. Even though I was happy while getting more time with the elephants - this was actually a sad book. Well, maybe just to me? I have no idea how anyone else felt.

The elephant's behaviors were so interesting that I couldn't put this book down. Then there's Alicia and I loved that she loved elephants. Now they aren't my favorite animal ever, because Hippos rule the world, but I definitely loved her interest in them. I also really liked that Alicia made her own decisions and didn't care what anyone else thought. Yeah it would have been nice to go to Harvard and everything. But to study monkeys? Nah, I wouldn't have accepted that either. Elephants > Monkeys all day every day.

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## Marianne says

*Larger Than Life* is a short story prequel to *Leaving Time*, the twenty-first full length novel by popular American author, Jodi Picoult. It introduces naturalist, Alice Metcalf, a key character in *Leaving Time* and details some of her history. In Botswana, Alice comes across an elephant calf that has survived the massacre of her herd by poachers. What she does next could jeopardise her whole career. Picoult has obviously done a lot of research into her subject: even this short taster gives the reader interesting facts about elephant herds, in particular the importance of the matriarch, and some of the effects of poaching. In true Picoult fashion, this story is informative and thought-provoking as well as being at times funny and very moving. The download also includes the first chapter of *Leaving Time*. Readers will eagerly devour this free offering in anticipation of the publication of Picoult's upcoming novel.

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## Ron says

Picoult delivers more story in fifty pages than many writers do in hundreds. Through thoughts and flashbacks the main character reveals more about herself than she knows. The central story is about a researcher trying to adopt an orphaned baby elephant.

Only once did Picoult insult the reader by telling us what we should have figured out on our own. ("We both knew she was not talking about the wine.") But she made up for it with a line—or the opening of a line cribbed from Jane Austen. ("It is a fact universally acknowledge that it's impossible to stay furious in close proximity to a newborn elephant.")

Really good story telling.

Really good story.

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## ?Karen says

4.5 stars. A truly heartbreaking, lovely little story that gave me quite an education on elephants. Set in Botswana, Alice is a scientist, a naturalist, studying the local elephant population, which is dwindling once again due to the slaughter for ivory that has reached epic proportions. She ends up taking a newborn, orphaned and starving in her grief for her mother, back to camp with her to nurse back to health. So much to love in these 50 some pages.

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## Brenda says

Alice had wanted to study and work with elephants for as long as she could remember. With all the qualifications she had achieved at home in New England, her mother was horrified when she gave up the offer of Harvard to travel to Africa instead. Alice's dreams had finally come true, with or without her mother's blessings.

On the game reserve in Botswana where she was studying the elephants' memories and the bond between mother and calf, Alice was fascinated by what she was learning. But the day she discovered a baby calf which had been orphaned, a calf that was only around three weeks old, she knew her life was about to change. She was about to break the cardinal rule about interfering with nature...

I thoroughly enjoyed this delightful, heartwarming novella which is a prequel to Jodi Picoult's newest novel *Leaving Time*. She has obviously done a lot of research and I'm really looking forward to reading it. I have no hesitation in recommending *Larger Than Life*, especially if you have an ereader.

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## Carol says

I enjoyed the main story, but thought it ended somewhat abruptly. The ending was very unsatisfactory, and did not inspire me to read the next book.

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## Sharon says

Alice's love and interest in elephants started from when she was just ten years old. From the day she did a presentation on the life of an elephant at school she has never forgotten a single fact about elephants to this day.

Alice's mother is not very happy when she finds out that, Alice has turned down a position at Harvard where she could research monkeys. Instead Alice decides to travel to Africa and do what she has always dreamed of and that is to study elephants. Alice is in her element as she learns many things about the elephants such as the elephants memory and the strong bond between mother and calf. Alice knew the day she came across an orphaned calf that she could not just walk away and leave it even though this was what she was meant to do.

What an amazing and emotional short story and one in which I absolutely LOVED. This is a prequel to Jodi Picoult's next novel, *Leaving Time*. Highly recommended.

## Eman says

Larger Than Life: A wonderful *novella* full of emotion, spotting the light on the relationships of mother/daughter, human/animal. Very well and smoothly written with a proper use of flashbacks. I was intrigued to read it once I knew Jodi Picoult. Jodi Picoult the author wrote *My Sister's Keeper* which is another wonderful work.

The writer takes us in a journey to Botswana, South Africa. *Alice* is a scientist/naturalist specialized in studying wildlife who rescues a little elephant after surviving a massacre which hit its herd by a bunch of poachers. A strong bond builds up between Alice and the elephant calf, which will be named *Lesego* later on by *Neo* who is Alice's main squeeze. Yes, love will be in the air.

I have a soft spot for animals. Not ashamed to admit that I shed some tears in two certain occasions. How can a book this short hold so much emotion? Read it and if you're so sensitive like me, you will end up tearing, too.

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## Anke says

Free 8/4 - 8/9 on amazon :) Don't forget, Anke!!!!

A story, ok a novella about elephants and Africa, well that's a must for me. I have been to Africa, I have seen elephants roaming the Masai Mara and near Krüger and they are amazing. And to get this for free? Even better. I started reading at once, but somehow this didn't work for me. Half of the story was facts about the elephants. It was interesting, lots of it I already knew, only - I wanted to read a romance, if not that then at least an engaging story, but what I got was a dissertation. Alice, the way the story was written, I couldn't take to her (hope that's the right expression:). I felt for her regarding her mother and her love-less upbringing, but whenever I thought, now I get her, there again were all these elephant facts. And then the romance part of the story, that was rather out of the blue and didn't work as well. Might be I got it all wrong and this wasn't supposed to be at least in part a romance, but as fiction, sorry didn't work.

I'm still on the fence regarding the novel *Leaving Time*, I think I'll wait for more reviews.

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## Kathy says

Larger than Life' is a short taster, a novella, a prequel to the much awaited new novel from Jodi Picoult, *Leaving Time*. Alice Metcalf is a naturalist and has saved an elephant calf that has survived a massacre. This is a really well researched ebook and I really enjoyed this teaser (took me about an hour and a half to read), and was happy I saved it until *Leaving Time* was released – so ready now to dive on in! Jodi Picoult is a must read author for me and I just know that I'm going to devour *Larger Than Life*.

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