



What Are You Glad About? What Are You Mad About?: Poems for When a Person Needs a Poem

Judith Viorst , Lee White (Illustrations)

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From the beloved and internationally bestselling author of *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*, Judith Viorst comes a brand-new collection of clever, hilarious, and poignant poems that touch on every aspect of the roller-coaster ride that is childhood.

*Did you wake up this morning all smiley inside?
Does life taste like ice cream and cake?
Or does it seem more like your goldfish just died
And your insides are one great big ache?*

From school to family to friends, from Grrrr to Hooray!, Judith Viorst takes us on a tour of feelings of all kinds in this thoughtful, funny, and charming collection of poetry that's perfect for young readers just learning to sort out their own emotions.

What Are You Glad About? What Are You Mad About?: Poems for When a Person Needs a Poem Details

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From Reader Review What Are You Glad About? What Are You Mad About?: Poems for When a Person Needs a Poem for online ebook

Laura Harrison says

I give 5 stars for Lee White's stunning illustrations. 3 or less for the content. Yes, I know it is by the amazing Judith Viorst. I didn't find the poems particularly child friendly and frankly this title seemed kind of depressing overall.

Katie Cat Books says

Middle grade. Reminiscent of Shel Silverstein. Light and heavy.

Story: This is a poetry book with poetry on different themes, including feelings, school, family, seasons, friends and more.

Language: Each poem is a page or two long, really big font, lots of white space, full page illustrations. Most are light, talking about getting into trouble or the changing of the seasons or ice cream. Others are more heavy, about divorce or when your friend is not your friend anymore. Read individually they can be quite serious and contemplative, but sandwiched between other lighter poems makes them lighter to process.

Illustrations: Great illustrations, all in black, white and blue colors. The kids featured appear quite young, which might be a put off to older middle grade readers, but I find the vocabulary and topics covered appropriate to all middle grade readers. Adults too will appreciate some lines that might go over younger readers' heads, such as missing eyeglasses and comments about chocolate.

A couple of duds, a couple of ?, a few big winners, and a lot of good fun kid friendly modern poetry.

Lois R. Gross says

Oh, Judith Viorst, Judith Viorst,
Your poems are wonderful, and never the worst.
You reach deep down where children feel,
And reassure them that their emotions are real.
This book of rhyme is good for parents, too,
Both to reassure their children and remind them who
They used to be when they were young,
And to remind them that growing up can be less than fun.
But also, if grown-ups read this they will undoubtedly find,
Messages and help for their own troubled minds.
Because what's so different about being chosen last,
Or losing a promotion when you shouldn't have been passed.
While sometimes echoing a man named Shel,
These are distinctly your rhymes that you write so well.

So, Judith Viorst, I give you stars of gold,
Could you please write more for grown-ups before we're both too old?

Chelsea says

An interesting take on a variety of topics for school age children. I enjoyed some poems more than others, finding particular ones rather strange and a bit unpleasant; every person has their own preferences and some of them were not mine. Certainly worth a read if you are interested in poetry.

Kris - My Novelesque Life says

WHAT ARE YOU GLAD ABOUT? WHAT ARE YOU MAD ABOUT?: POEMS FOR WHEN A PERSON NEEDS A POEM

Written by Judith Viorst

Illustrated by Lee White

2016, 111 Pages

Genre: poetry, children's, humour

★★★★

I loved this new collection of poetry written by Judith Viorst - who also wrote *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*. Lee White's illustrations are complimentary to Viorst's words and sentiments.

Anna says

We checked this one out from the library, but will be adding it our collection. My 10 year old and I especially loved the poem "In Between", including the lines "too old to keep my teddy bear, too young to let him go. In between and waiting for the rest of me to grow."

Wonderish says

This book rules. I love it so much I'm going to buy it.

A.C. Paige says

(I received an ARC from Edelweiss)

The pictures in this book are awesome! I love how they tie in with the poetry. Not all of the poems have to be relatable, it's the three or four memorable poems that are what make a children's poetry book essential to a

library collection.

At times the book seems a little bipolar. However, a parent or teacher can guide children with questions to navigate their emotions. Children will likely be able to relate with many of the poems. The poetry covers school, family relationships, and friendship.

Some issues:

1. Children reading these poems are not likely to know what "E.T." is, it's a reference to outdated pop-culture.
 2. "Just About Ready" is too reminiscent of a Shel Silverstein poem. The words "And I'll--What? Did you just say it's Sunday?" sounded like a rip-off.
 3. The e-reader formatting needs improvement.
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RC says

This is a great collection of poems about different moods and situations by Judith Viorst. These middle-grade poems are perfect for fans of Shel Silverstein and Jack Preulutsky.

Chris says

I feel so badly not really liking a book of Judith Viorst's poetry! I loved *If I Were in Charge of the World*, have read it over and over and shared poems with lots and lots of kids. But after reading through these poems once I felt pretty "blah" about them, so I read them through again today. I still feel blah about them....some seemed forced, some I found really hard to find any rhythm, words were put in odd sequences in order to fit some sort of rhyming pattern, and some of the thoughts and thinking don't seem to gel with the thoughts and thinking of the kids I've worked with for the last ten years or just made me roll my eyes. I didn't give it a 1...I'll give Ms. Viorst the benefit of the doubt because she's always been high on my list...but I'm not keen on these poems at all. And I feel really, really bad about that!

Kim says

Little poems on a variety of topics for kids. There are several that will begin a discussion with kids dealing with difficult issues.

Mary Thomas says

I'm reading through a bunch of poetry collections, and this was one of the better ones.

Some of my favorites:

Reading and Writing (15), Arithmetrick (16), The Substitute Teacher Really into Rhyming (20), My Papa (24), New Brother (32), And We Call it Home (40), About Time (56), My Least Favorite Things (70), Shivery Winter Song (78), Just Wondering (91), and In Between (100).

Ms. Yingling says

E ARC from Edleweiss Above the Treeline

In some ways, this is a sort of sequel to *If I Were in Charge of the World*, a book that was one of my daughter's favorites when she was in elementary school, mainly because it captured so many of her emotions at the time. This one is for a slightly older audience, and many of the poems were perfect for middle school students. *I'm Not My Best Friend's Best Friend Anymore* could, in fact, be the signature poem of middle school experience, but there are others, like *All Alone Inside My Very Own Skin* and *Keeping Up With My Friends* that also very brilliantly portray some of the more difficult moments that middle school students go through.

The illustrations by Lee White are very attractive. Fun, with a 1960s retro vibe, probably because of the quality of the line drawings. More modern illustrations are very smooth, and look computer generated, but White's have a Joe and Beth Krush, Quentin Blake quality to them.

As for the quality of the poetry-- Viorst is my gold standard for light hearted verse. She uses form and rhyme in innovative ways, has amusing topics, but is always flawless in her execution. The perfection of scansion and rhyme while playing with the rules a bit... it's breathtaking. If you haven't picked up her volumes of poetry for adults, such as *How Did I Get to Be 40: & Other Atrocities*, do yourself a favor and find copies right now. They are hysterically and heartbreakingly true to the experience of being thirty, forty or fifty.

I definitely want to see an actual copy of this, but the 6.3" x 8" size bodes well for this. At 112 pages, it looks more like a middle school book than an elementary one, and will be perfect for the poetry unit that the 7th graders at my school do. There's plenty of figurative language, and poems longer than 40 words if students need one to memorize. In fact, this is so perfect that I may have to buy two copies.

Emily says

Kids will relate to these poems. The illustrations and color scheme are perfect. It's fantastic!

Natalia says

~3.75 ?

Granted this was intended for children (which I learned about halfway through.) Middle schoolers would probably enjoy this, or elementary schoolers.

Reminded me a bit of Dr. Seuss!
