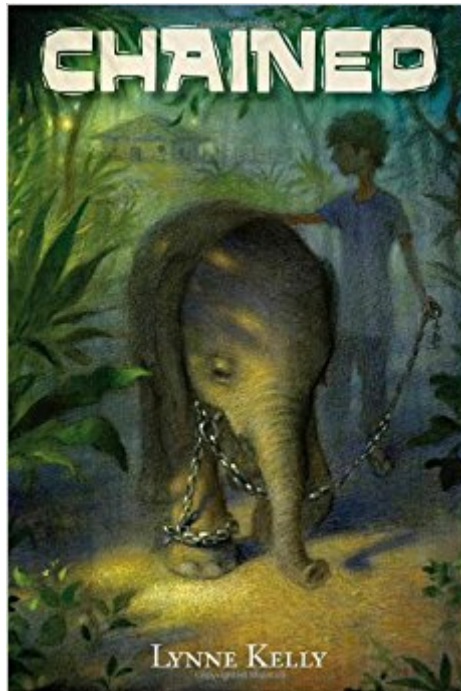




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Chained



Synopsis

After ten-year-old Hastin's family borrows money to pay for his sister's hospital bill, he leaves his village in northern India to take a job as an elephant keeper and work off the debt. He thinks it will be an adventure, but he isn't prepared for the cruel circus owner. The crowds that come to the circus see a lively animal who plays soccer and balances on milk bottles, but Hastin sees Nandita, a sweet elephant and his best friend, who is chained when she's not performing and hurt with a hook until she learns tricks perfectly. Hastin protects Nandita as best as he can, knowing that the only way they will both survive is if he can find a way for them to escape.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 770L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 256 pages

Publisher: Farrar, Straus and Giroux (BYR) (May 8, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0374312370

ISBN-13: 978-0374312374

Product Dimensions: 5.7 x 8.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 27 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #417,292 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #58 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Runaways](#) #199 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Elephants](#) #320 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Asia](#)

Age Range: 10 - 14 years

Grade Level: 5 - 9

Customer Reviews

"An affecting animal story and a well-paced adventure." —*School Library Journal*
"First novelist Kelly crafts a layered, convincing tale of interspecies friendship between individuals who care for each other within the confines of enslavement."
"A heartfelt addition to the literature promoting better treatment of our fellow animals." —*Kirkus*
"Lynne Kelly has written a story that unwraps the heart and asks it to be brave, loyal, and above all, kind. Readers of all ages will worry for Hastin as he marks the wall that records his bondage to a cruel master, but they will ultimately celebrate

his jubilant triumph. This story unwrapped my own heart.~*~Kathi Appelt, author of the Newbery Honor and New York Times bestseller *The Underneath*

Lynne Kelly is a sign language interpreter and a writer. *Chained* is her first novel. She lives in Houston, Texas.

Elephants! A 10-year-old boy, a younger sister, a mom, a stray dog, and the memory of a good father, who lost his life, too early. In an instant, it's all traded, for the noblest of reasons. Now life includes a cruel and greedy man, the kindest and most humble of men, a man who has lost his way, and the soon-to-be best friend a 10-year-old boy could ever have...in the form of an elephant. Follow along as these best friends learn from one another about love, loyalty, bravery, and doing what's right. If you've read *The One and Only Ivan* and loved it, don't wait another minute to read this book. And if you are an adult and have read *Leaving Time* by Jodi Picoult, read *Chained* and *Ivan*. If you haven't read any of them, what are you waiting for? Three five-star book recommendations by a children's, young adult, and adult librarian--No Charge! Do keep the tissues nearby, in all cases! Magnificent!!!!

Chained leaves the reader satisfied with the Walt Disney ending. My kind of book with a heart felt bond between a young boy trying to protect his mother and sister as he travels to become an elephant keeper. He realizes that he is as much chained to a cruel employer as the elephant he bonds with is chained to his enclosure. The threads which weave this story together leave the reader satisfied and wanting to continue reading until the last page. My fifth grade students would love this book as well as my adult friend readers.

Great book for a pre-teen boy. Nice story about love, compassion and bravery. Fun to learn a bit about elephants, too.

I read this book with my 11 year old son who is a reluctant reader to say the least. While he will never admit to liking a book or reading, I think this book had a huge impact on him. He became extremely emotional at the ending, which really surprised me. I really enjoyed this story very much too. It just made me love elephants even more!

I loved this book so much, I read it twice! A sweet brother, a young elephant, a villain and India

details make this fascinating and heart tugging. Life isn't always easy, but love abounds. Curl up in a chair and prepare to be charmed by this engaging book!

Ok

Loved this book. It was so good I just couldn't put it down and in some parts I almost cried. So good!

The relationship between boy and elephant was remarkable. I could feel the connection. Sadly even today many elephants are trained using an elephant hook.

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