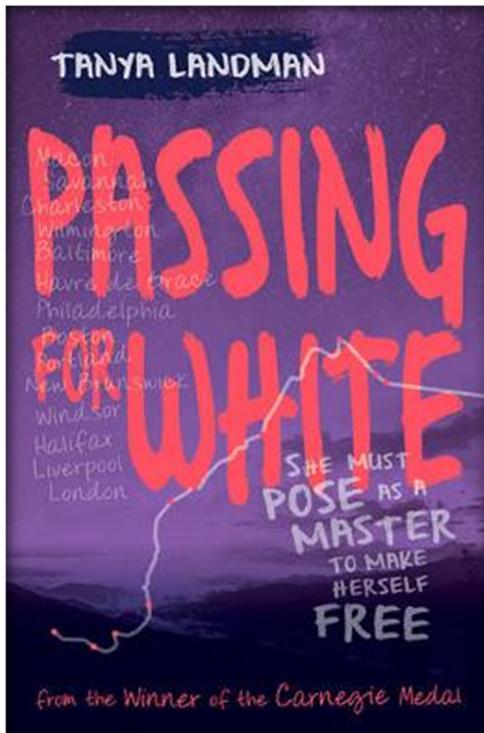


Helping you choose the best books for children



LoveReading4kids Reader reviews of **Passing For White** by Tanya Landman

Below are the complete reviews, written by the LoveReading4kids members.



Isaac Phelan, age 13

This book brilliantly illustrates the horror that slaves endured in the 19th century. In the 19th century, life was hard; especially for a black person. Captured and sold to wealthy white men for labour or sexual uses. Rosa and Benjamin are caught up in the slave trade and are married together. However, Rosa is desperate to escape. And she has an advantage: she is much paler than the other black people. But even with this bonus, can she and Benjamin escape even though they are being tracked down?

My favourite part of the novel is when Rosa is asked to write her name, but she is forbidden to learn how to write as a slave.

This is a really tense moment and made me sit on the edge of my seat.

I would put this book towards people of 13 and upwards.

Ella Bourke, age 12

*'Passing For White' is all about a young woman called Rosa and her husband Benjamin as they struggle in their slave bound lives and how they escaped from life-long slavery. **I think this book is very inspiring and it is amazing that the story is based on a real-life experience.***

It is no wonder that a book by the same author won the 2015 Carnegie medal and this book could well win the 2017 one!

This book would appeal to secondary school age children and probably above

that age range as well. Some of the language or acts in the book may not be liked by everyone and are probably not suitable for primary school age children, a bit of a warning in case this type of book does not appeal to you.

I think that the story is very reflective and covers a lot of ground despite being a short read.

Jack Wilson, age 14

'Passing For White' is massively eye opening to the hardships and horrors of racial segregation. *One of the truly impressive things about this is that it is based entirely from a true story. I could not believe that someone did the amazing things that happened in these books – and it actually worked. It was a superbly easy read with a good flow and enticing story. It was also incredibly impactful with me finding out that everything in that story was true – and was incredible to look up and to find that it was actually true, which made the book so much more hard hitting.*

Francesca Anderson, age 16

A very thought provoking story about the horrendous conditions and abuse that people of colour were subjected too. It is hard to believe that this was based on a true story.

However, whilst being an easy read for those who struggle with reading, we felt some of the content wasn't entirely appropriate for younger teens including my younger brother.

William Longlands, age 13

10/10. This book is based on a real story.

*This book is about two slaves who runaway and is based on the real story of William and Ellen Croft. The names of everybody have been changed so the slaves are not called William and Ellen. It is based in the mid 1800's when slavery was still prominent in America. The book is **written well and has a good flow to it.***