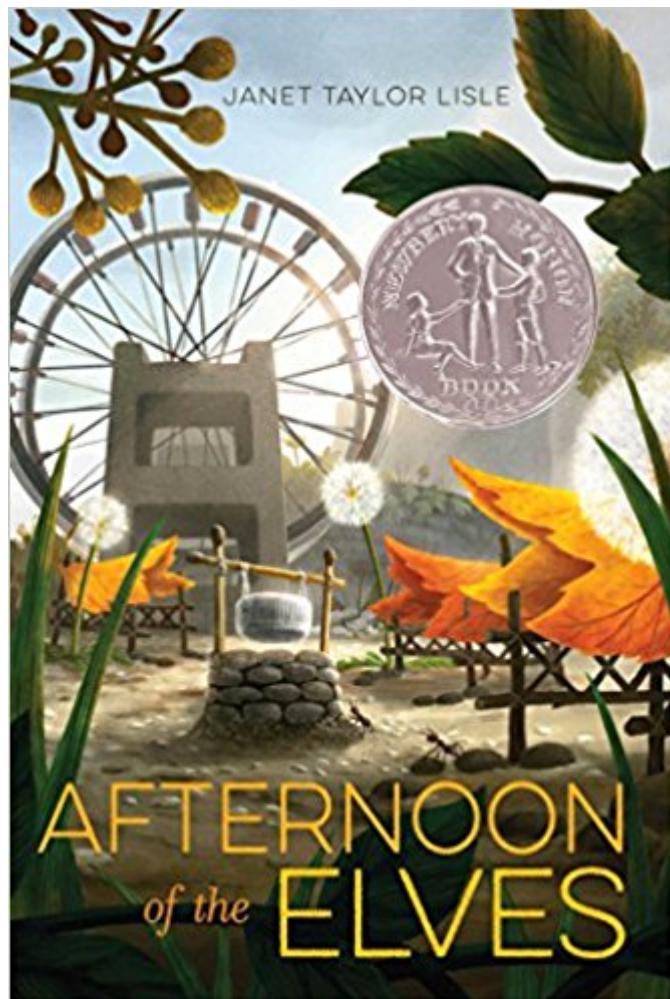


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# Afternoon Of The Elves



## Synopsis

Janet Taylor Lisle's captivating Newbery Honor book explores how, like friendship, magic can emerge when you least expect it—and when you need it most. All you have to do is look deep. Anything might happen in Sara-Kate's backyard. For that matter, anything was happening. For nine-year-old Hillary Lenox, being friends with Sara-Kate Connolly is a complicated business. Sara-Kate's clothes don't match, her hair's a mess, and she's known to spit at people when they make her mad. But when Sara-Kate shows Hillary the tiny elf village in her overgrown backyard, Hillary decides she can't be as awful as all that. Hillary is amazed by the delicate houses, the miniature well, even an intricate Ferris wheel made of bicycle wheels and popsicle sticks. But the more time she spends in Sara-Kate's yard, the more questions she has. How come they never go inside Sara-Kate's house? Why is Sara-Kate sometimes missing from school? And why hasn't Hillary ever seen Sara-Kate's mom? If Hillary can just look deep enough, she hopes, she will uncover the secrets of the elves—and of her new friend.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 128 pages

Publisher: Atheneum Books for Young Readers (May 16, 2017)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.6 x 8.2 inches

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Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 61 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #94,320 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #51 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Homelessness & Poverty #1835 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Friendship #2431 in Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy & Magic

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

"Enchanting," said PW of this Newbery Honor-winning fantasy featuring elves that appear to best

friends Sara-Kate and Hillary. Ages 9-13. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Grade 4-6-- A fascinating portrayal of a manipulative yet touching friendship. Nine-year-old Hillary lives in comfortable suburbia with her parents. In the house behind lives tough, independent Sara-Kate. Her father's gone, her sick mother hides, she dresses like an urchin, and is despised and mocked at school. However, Hillary stumbles on Sara-Kate's secret; she tends a tiny village in her weed-filled back yard, a village where she says elves live. Hillary is fascinated, and in helping her neighbor maintain the village, gradually becomes closer to Sara-Kate despite her school friends' disdain and parental disapproval. She starts not only to believe in elves, but also to wonder if Sara-Kate is not one herself. The ambiguous clues as to whether Sara-Kate is really an elf or just a disturbed child are so well wrought that readers will be as uncertain as Hillary. The children's emotions and behavior are believable and authentic, depicted clearly without over-explaining, especially Hillary's inner conflict. Lisle captures the subtlety of childhood feelings and perceptions, while maintaining a language and style accessible to average readers. Hillary grows from a bland follower to someone who knows that it is she, ultimately, who must make up her mind, despite the opinions of those around her, and perhaps become a little like all that was good in Sara-Kate herself. --Annette Curtis Klause, Montgomery County Department of Public Libraries, MD  
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A poor imitation of Mary Downing Hahn's "Daphne's Book." Characters and plot nowhere near as well developed as in Ms. Hahn's book. Not an enjoyable read. Would not recommend.

A light, pleasant, but thoughtful read. I recommend it for readers of all ages. Makes me want to head out and scout out signs of elves myself.

I wished it had a better ending. I like that she wrote a good story and put a lot of detail into it.

Mysterious little story that was in the top 5 books of the year when I taught 4th grade for many years. Gave it to my granddaughter for Christmas. Hope she likes it as much as my students.

Every kid should have to read this! It's about fantasy and morals. There is so much to learn from this story.

One of my favorite books from my childhood. Came in great condition.

A great book Thank you for writing this book Miss Janet from, uncgher bye and so long Miss Jane Lislle

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