

June 13 2011

## Small as an Elephant

**Author:**

Jennifer Richard Jacobson

**Reading Level:** Grades 3 - 6

Jack and his mother go camping in Maine over Labor Day weekend, but when Jack wakes up on their first morning, his mother is gone, along with her tent and the car. Jack's mother has done this before, so he's worried... but knows she'll come back eventually. But the end of the weekend looms closer, and Jack's food money has long since run out.

Jack knows that if he tells anyone his mother has disappeared again, he'll be taken away from her, so he starts heading home, alone.

*Small as an Elephant* is a wonderful urban survival story about a boy who loves nothing more than his mother, and elephants.

[Check availability of this book](#)

[More books by Jennifer Richard Jacobson](#)

**A few similar stories of kids in charge of themselves:**

[The Higher Power of Lucky by Susan Patron](#)

[Betti on the High Wire by Lisa Railsback](#)

[How to Steal a Dog by Barbara O'Connor](#)

[The Great Gilly Hopkins by Katherine Paterson](#)

[Afternoon of the Elves by Janet Taylor Lisle](#)

[One Square Inch by Claudia Mills](#)

The Magician's Elephant by Kate DiCamillo

**YS Book Level:**

3rd Grade

4th Grade

5th Grade

6th Grade

**YS Locations:**

J Fiction

**YS Reviewers:**

EF

**YS Genres:**

Books for Boys

Don't Miss These

Family

Read-Alikes

Realistic Fiction

---

**Source URL:** <http://hplib.org/kids/reviews/smallasanelephant?page=20>