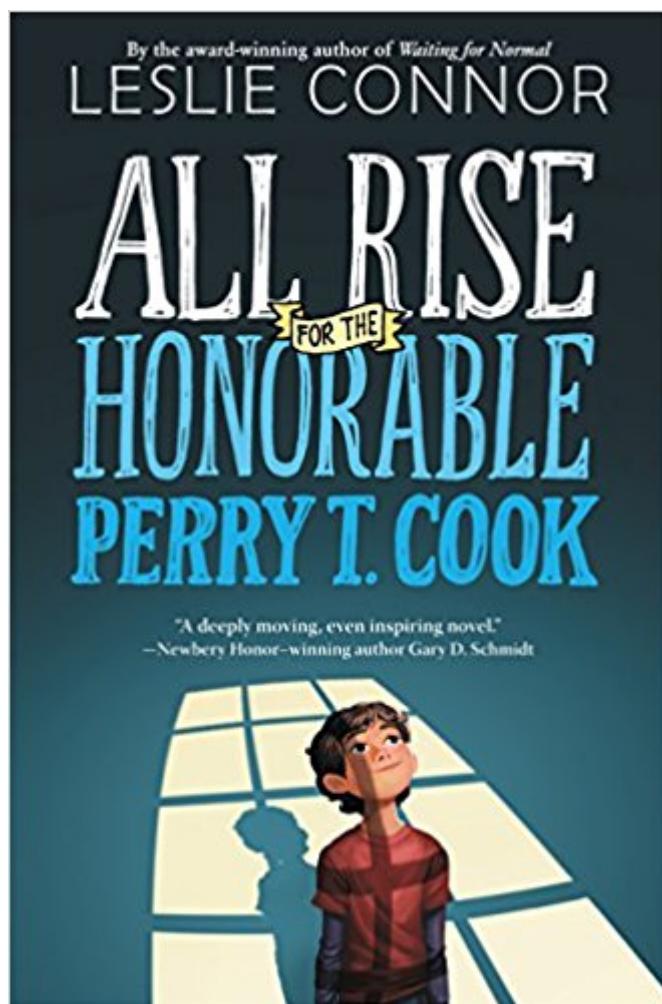


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# All Rise For The Honorable Perry T. Cook



## **Synopsis**

Junior Library Guild Selection \*Â Kidsâ™ Indie Next List Pick From Leslie Connor, award-winning author of Waiting for Normal and Crunch, comes a soaring and heartfelt story about love, forgiveness, and how innocence makes us all rise up. All Rise for the Honorable Perry T. Cook is a powerful story, perfect for fans of Wonder and When You Reach Me. Eleven-year-old Perry was born and raised by his mom at the Blue River Co-ed Correctional Facility in tiny Surprise, Nebraska. His mom is a resident on Cell Block C, and so far Warden Daugherty has made it possible for them to be together. That is, until a new district attorney discovers the truthâ and Perry is removed from the facility and forced into a foster home. When Perry moves to the âœoutsideâ • world, he feels trapped. Desperate to be reunited with his mom, Perry goes on a quest for answers about her past crime. As he gets closer to the truth, he will discover that love makes people resilient no matter where they come from . . . but can he find a way to tell everyone what home truly means?

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 540 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 400 pages

Publisher: Katherine Tegen Books; First Edition, First Printing edition (March 1, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0062333461

ISBN-13: 978-0062333469

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 1.2 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 58 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #13,494 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #66 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Social Skills #83 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Values #100 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Mysteries & Detectives

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## **Customer Reviews**

Gr 5â "Eleven-year-old Perry's home life is like that of most kids his age: morning ritual, school, dinner with his mom, and games with his extended family. Unlike other kids, however, Perry lives at the Blue River Co-Ed Correctional Facility, where he's stayed since birth with his mother, Jessica.

Nearing the end of her sentence, Jessica is up for parole, and she and Perry are eager to start a new life on the outside. Opposing Jessica's parole is the county's ambitious district attorney, Tom VanLeer, stepfather of Perry's best friend. VanLeer is outraged that a child was raised in a prison and demands that Perry live with the VanLeers while the case is sorted out. Perry knows he has traded a prison that feels like home for a home that feels like a prison. He resolves to reunite with his mother and have her appeal granted. Connor subtly conveys Perry's restrained anger over being torn from his Blue River family (for instance, the boy refers to objects in his foster home as "the VanLeer closet" or "a VanLeer towel"). Perry is a memorable protagonist whose unusual upbringing gives him an understanding of and faith in human nature that brings out the best in everyone around him. He's a perfect foil for the superficial morality of VanLeer, who is no match for Perry's integrity when the boy confronts the adult on his duplicity, declaring, "Your word is no good." Rich characterizations give the novel its big heart: Jessica, Big Ed, and the other Blue River inmates are nuanced, vivid characters whose stories of perseverance after tragedy embody the novel's themes of redemption, hope, and community. VERDICT This beautifully written work will send readers' spirits soaring.â "Marybeth Kozikowski, Sachem Public Library, Holbrook, NY

â œWith complex, memorable characters, a situation that demands sympathy, and a story thatâ ™s shown, not just told, this is fresh and affecting. Well-crafted, warm, and wonderful.â • (Kirkus Reviews (starred review))â œRich characterizations give the novel its big heart: Jessica, Big Ed, and the other Blue River inmates are nuanced, vivid characters whose stories of perseverance after tragedy embody the novelâ ™s themes of redemption, hope, and community. This beautifully written work will send readersâ ™ spirits soaring.â • (School Library Journal (starred review))â œThis book offers a different kind of diversity story that is important for kids to find on the shelf.â • (Booklist)â œReaders will long remember the folks of Blue River after its gates have closed.â • (Bulletin of the Center for Childrenâ ™s Books)â œIn a novel filled with endearing characters, sad goodbyes, and new beginnings, Connor (Crunch) expresses the depth of Perryâ ™s homesickness without romanticizing his life in a prison.â • (Publishers Weekly)â œEvery so often, a novel comes along to remind us of that what we hope is true, is true: that understanding is stronger than what seems to be justice, that kindness is deeper and fuller than anger, and that goodness can heal brokenness. This is one of those novels.â • (Newbery Honor-winning author Gary D. Schmidt)â œPerry Cook is a character who steps off the page, wanders through your mind, and finds his way to your heart.â • (Lynda Mullaly Hunt, New York Times bestselling author of *Fish in a Tree*)â œAll *Rise for the Honorable Perry T. Cook* is a book filled with tough truths, relentless

optimism, fierce love and above all else gorgeous writing. I loved every heartbreak, joyful page. • (Corey Ann Haydu, author of *Rules for Stealing Stars*) • A heartwarming story with an unstoppable hero, a mystery that keeps you guessing, and a unique setting. All Rise for the Honorable Perry T. Cook is a rich look at family and what it means to face adversity and fly. "I loved it. • (Kimberly Newton Fusco, author of *Beholding Bee*) • Leslie Connor has given young readers a gentle introduction into the world of incarcerated parents in an engaging and ultimately wonderfully rewarding story. • (Nora Raleigh Baskin, author of *Ruby on the Outside* and *Anything But Typical*) • I don't think there's been a book so moving and heartwarming for this age range since *WONDER*. • (Shoshana, Reading Bug (San Carlos, CA)) Starred Reviews for *Waiting for Normal*: • A heroine with spunk and spirit offers an inspiring lesson in perseverance and hope. First-rate. • (Kirkus Reviews (starred review) on *Waiting for Normal*) • A story centered around loss, heartbreak, abandonment, and new beginnings. • (School Library Journal (starred review) on *Waiting for Normal*) • Characters as persuasively optimistic as Addie are rare, and readers will gravitate to her. Poignant. • (Publishers Weekly (starred review) on *Waiting for Normal*)

I loved this book, from the first sentence to the last. Perry is the sort of character you can't help but root for, however it's the minor characters, the supporting cast, that completely enthralled me. There are many, and each is brought to life in such a natural way that you have no difficulty remembering them. Non-readers and readers alike will be drawn to *All Rise for the Honorable Perry T. Cook*--a story about a kid who grows up inside a prison is simply too fascinating to resist.

I love this book. A likable main character in a predicament. An unusual setting that could be intriguing to readers. Some twists and turns that help you connect to the protagonist and plot.

A story that challenges preconceived notions and intentions. Perry grows up inside a minimum security prison until it comes to the attention of a District attorney. All the adults in his life have his best intentions at heart, making decisions for him that are not necessarily the best. This is an area where many of our teens struggle, and often begin to see adults as human, who may not always have the answers and ability to fix all. Powerful in how many topics it addresses.

This is a heartwarming story. It makes me want to follow Perry for a few to see how he and his mom do. Thanks so much for a delightful book.

My 12 year old son and I read this book together. He gives it a 15 out of 10, best book ever! We are now looking for our next Laura Conner book.

I love this newest novel by Leslie Connor. Not only has she created a world that most of us (happily) know nothing about--the world of an incarcerated mom parenting her son from prison--but she has done so without forcing us into sadness or despair. Perry, the 11-year-old protagonist, has always lived in the prison, and he sees the inmates and workers as his friends. When a new district attorney comes to town and "saves" Perry from prison life, we the readers know that this is actually a sad thing from the boy's point of view--but even then we watch as Perry triumphs with love and optimism. This book gives such a good message to kids who perhaps have a different sort of life from the typical child's life: it shows ways to thrive and be happy despite roadblocks and obstacles. Ms. Connor accomplishes all this with an ease of writing that never falls into sentimentality or saccharine writing. She gives us believable, lovable characters we root for at every step of the way. There are so many characters to love in this book. I have bought it for all my grandchildren--and can't wait to read it with them.

ENJOY THE BOOK, I DONATED THE BOOK TO A LIBRARY IN MEDFORD ,WI.

This was a fun read. The character doesn't always act his age, but I really enjoyed the story.

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