



Tru & Nelle

G. Neri

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Long before they became famous writers, Truman Capote (*In Cold Blood*) and Harper Lee (*To Kill a Mockingbird*) were childhood friends in Monroeville, Alabama. This fictionalized account of their time together opens at the beginning of the Great Depression, when Tru is seven and Nelle is six. They love playing pirates, but they like playing Sherlock and Watson-style detectives even more. It's their pursuit of a case of drugstore theft that lands the daring duo in real trouble. Humor and heartache intermingle in this lively look at two budding writers in the 1930s South.

Tru & Nelle Details

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Author : G. Neri

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From Reader Review Tru & Nelle for online ebook

Ivonne Rovira says

Author Greg Neri has created a pearl in his children's book *Tru and Nelle*, which gives readers a glimpse into the lives of the dainty dandy Truman Streckfus Persons and the neglected tomboy Nelle Lee before they, respectively, turned into the legendary writers Truman Capote and Harper Lee.

Crafted as a series of interlocking short stories, this sweet novel delivers a fictionalized glimpse into their lives during the time when they were next-door neighbors in Monroeville, Alabama, in the 1930s. We discover that Truman was already witty and flamboyant as young as 7, and Nelle was uncompromising, brilliant, and resourceful when just 6. They were two eccentrics in a place and time that had no tolerance for such — which is why they became such fast friends. We see the seeds of Atticus Finch in Nelle's father, the commanding lawyer A.C. We meet Tru's irresponsible parents, the starry-eyed con artist Archulus Persons and the narcissistic, free-spending beauty Lille Mae Persons. Readers will delight in the scenes with Tru's childlike cousin Sook, memorialized in Capote's delightful *A Christmas Memory*. And readers will get a closer — and fairer — look at the other cousins who get a somewhat bad rap in *A Christmas Memory*.

My one qualm is that, while *Tru and Nelle* will enthrall adults familiar with *A Christmas Memory* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*, I am not sure that its target audience of children would enjoy these slow-paced, nostalgia-tinged stories. Oh, well! Like Archulus and Tru himself, we'll just dream big and hope for the best.

In the interest of full disclosure, I received this book from NetGalley and Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Children's Book Group, HMH Books for Young Readers, in exchange for an honest review.

Rahmadiyahanti says

Sampul buku, Harper Lee, dan persahabatan. Tiga hal tersebut yang menarik bagi saya tentang buku ini. Bagaimana dengan Truman Capote? Ya sejujurnya, saya belum pernah baca karyanya. Punya sih yang *Cold Blood* & *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, tapi belum tertarik dibaca :P.

OK, jadi buku ini adalah novelisasi kisah persahabatan Tru (Truman Capote) dan Nelle (Harper Lee). Saya selalu suka dengan kisah persahabatan, apalagi ini adalah persahabatan dua penulis besar Amerika. Seperti saya sebut di atas, saya belum pernah baca karya-karya Capote, tapi karya Lee... woo, saya ngefans dengan Atticus! Haha. Eh, maksudnya saya suka pakai banget dengan *To Kill a Mockingbird* (TKaM) :D. Membaca *Tru & Nelle* seperti mengenang kembali beberapa karakterisasi tokoh dan sedikit cerita di TKaM. Nelle adalah Scout. Tru adalah Dil. Jem adalah Big Boy. Ruang pengadilan, AC Lee (Atticus? Tetepp... :D), masalah ras, dan KKK. Nggak heran juga, karena kisah persahabatan masa kecil Capote & Lee kabarnya yang menginspirasi lahirnya TKaM, novel peraih Pulitzer tahun 1961.

Tidak terlalu banyak drama dan konflik dalam buku ini, tapi saya menikmati. Menarik bisa menelusuri masa kecil dua penulis besar. Kesukaan mereka pada aktivitas membaca, menulis, petualangan, dan... rumah pohon (aaa!). Lantas, apakah persahabatan mereka lurus-lurus saja? Di akhir buku dilampirkan catatan dari penulis tentang sekelumit masa dewasa mereka.

Heryani says

Sukaaaaakk!!

Pertama tertarik sama buku ini pas lihat reviewnya Hana. Tapi entah kenapa enggak pernah ketemu buku ini tiap ke toko buku. Eh, akhirnya malah dikirimin sama Hana. Thank you so much yaa Hana, jadi tahu buku bagus ini :D

Kisah persahabatan Nelle dan Truman yang penuh petualangan ini lumayan ngingetin sama Lima Sekawannya Enid Blyton yah, menurutku. Walaupun mungkin kisahnya mereka sudah ditambahin bumbu-bumbu biar seru, aku tetap kagum sih, sama keberanian mereka. Yang paling aku suka sih, waktu Nelle, Tru dan Big Boy (sahabat mereka yang imajinasinya kurang) menyelidiki kasus pencurian di toko permen. Enggak paham deh, memang anak-anak Amerika pada berani-berani, atau aku aja yang cemen, soalnya sampai sekarang pun tiap denger berita pencurian, yang ada aku bergidik ngeri. Boro-boro sampai nyelidikin :/

Ah, dan sebenarnya baca buku ini bikin aku jadi agak malu sih. Malu karena belum pernah baca *To Kill a Mockingbird* (apalagi *Go Set a Watchman* kan), dan karya Truman Capote yang pernah aku baca cuma *Breakfast at Tiffany's* aja, itupun karena habis nonton filmnya buat bahan tugas kuliah. Janji deh, dalam waktu dekat mesti baca *To Kill a Mockingbird* dan cari karya Truman Capote yang lainnya :D

Asriani says

It has been years since the last time I met Scout Finch. Then, Tru & Nelle brought her back. I think I need to take some times to give Finch family a visit. Nelle and her father made me miss the Finch family.

I like all chapters where they spent time together talking about books or acting as Sherlock and Watson. However the case that involved Sonny was little bit confusing.

This book also made me read more article about Truman Capote and Harper Lee. It is nice to find out they remained as friend.

TheSnowBook says

Tru y Nelle es una excelente historia acerca de la infancia de dos excelentes y reconocidos escritores: Truman Capote y Nelle Harper Lee.

Con una prosa bastante ágil, trama simple y divertida, nos adentramos en el mundo de estos dos pequeños que aman leer y que se tiene el uno al otro para complementarse como amigos.

Los personajes esta bien construidos y la ambientación es muy buena para la época.

Con referencias al racismo, a la gran Depresión e incluso a la xenofobia, esta novela es muy bonita y amena.

Único punto que podría estar mejor: dentro de la historia me hubiera gustado que fuera un poquito mas hondo y personal acerca de la vida de estos escritores.

Por lo de mas, recomendable.

Reseña completa: <http://thesnowbook.blogspot.com.ar/20...>

Angie says

Como leí en otra opinión de goodreads el libro puede ser protagonizado por cualquier niño que tenga ciertas características, lo que lo hace especial es que sean Tru y Nelle; aunque si no conociéramos a dichos escritores probablemente pasaría a ser algo sin importancia. Lo que quiero decir con esto es que el libro queda un poco cojo porque lo difunden como "la novela basada en la amistad de Truman Capote y Nelle Harper Lee" y de eso no hay mucho.

Por otro lado, el libro es muy tierno y divertido. Lleno de misterios y costumbres.

Reseña en: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EBwFZ...>

Alvina says

Bacaan ringan tentang persahabatan Truman Capote dan Harper Lee di masa kecil. Siapa sangka kalau keduanya ternyata bersahabat? ;)

Flor says

Una muy tierna historia acerca de la infancia de los reconocidos escritores Truman Capote y Harper Lee. Disfruté muchísimo estas aventuras y cómo fue creciendo esta amistad.

Jennifer Kirkwood (Levac) says

This is a great book that is fiction but based on some true events between authors Tru Capote and Nelle Harper Lee. I love Breakfast at Tiffany's and read Harper Lee's To Kill A Mocking Bird back in school, it is on my to be reread list. I think this is a great book for younger children and anyone who enjoy these two authors. It gives us a fun glimpse into the lives of two very famous authors when they first meet and start writing.

When I received a package of middle grade books to review, my son and I decided who would read which and this one ended up in my pile. He now has it in his to read as he saw how much I was enjoying it.

The two kids meet and they could not be any more different from each other, Tru is very clean and proper, not fitting in with the other boys. Nelle is a tomboy through and through! She reminds me of Annie, tiny but tough. Doesn't mind getting her hands dirty and loves a good adventure. Tru loves to solve mysteries but isn't

a fighter, he's a story teller. They both love to read Sherlock Holmes mysteries and have their very own adventures together.

This is a fun novel about a time during the great depression and the kids having fun with their imagination. I love how these two play together and become friends. Tru is left with family while his mother is doing her own thing and his father is trying to come up with a great scheme to make them lots of money. A fictitious memoir.

I give this book a 4.5 stars out of 5. A great read, I am sure my son will enjoy it. I received a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

Jessica White says

This review and more can be found at [A Reader's Diary!](#)

Tru & Nelle will be THE book of 2016.

We get to explore the eccentric friendship of Truman Capote and Nelle Harper Lee in this wonderful book for children. In Monroeville, AL, a tomboy girl and an ever so proper boy become close friends when discovering their shared love for Sherlock Holmes and unsolved mysteries. These two outcasts, and cousin Big Boy, start their own detective agency in their treehouse headquarters. They grab a few crimes that are far too big for their little agency and find themselves in over their heads. They come face to face with some of the horrors in their little Alabama town. They even create a few horrors of their own.

Throughout the whole novel you begin to see how Tru and Nelle worked together to become the writers they are known to be today. They challenge each other. They want the other to succeed as much as they want to themselves. G. Neri, the author, even hinted toward Truman's nonfictional novel, *In Cold Blood*.

Whether you are young or old, you will love this book.

If you are a fan of Truman Capote, Harper Lee, or both, you will love this book.

If you live in Alabama or know any of the history, you will love this book.

Get your hands on a copy of Tru & Nelle, YOU WILL LOVE IT.

Sarah says

Anyone who knows me knows *To Kill a Mockingbird* is my favorite book of all time. Oddly, I've had an ARC of this sitting on my to read stack for months and have just now gotten around to reading it. I think in part I was put off by the large print and wide margins (though I read enough children's lit that this shouldn't matter) as well as being hesitant to have the image of my beloved Nelle clouded by someone else's interpretation. Reading through this fictionalized historical account of the pair's friendship I kept mentally checking it against what I have read about Nelle Harper Lee, her novel, and the movie. I am unsure as to where the line between the author's poetic license and fact takes place but, as I know far less about Truman Capote's life, I tried to simply read the story as written. Tru is the real focus here and the book chronicles his imagination and desire for adventure. Undoubtedly, my enjoyment would have been far less had these two not been the subject matter. Nonetheless, it is definitely a fun, spirited read. Also makes a great case for raising children without access to a television set because these two sure were able to entertain themselves in

far better ways than the Disney Channel. I'm not sure about the final copy but the ARC has additional author's notes about their background as well as stories he imagines the youngsters might have banged out on the typewriter gifted to them by Nelle's father.

One other note: the copy I have says the targeted readers are grades 4-7. I think the reading level is quite a bit lower. More like 2-5 (and a low fifth grade at that.) Although Truman does, on occasion, use high-level vocabulary there are always enough contextual clues if not the actual definition outright for the reader to be able to deduce the words' meanings.

Churin says

This book.

THIS BOOK ASDFGHJKL

So so so cute :3

Tru was this well-dressed, well-spoken boy with a quirky, slightly a manipulative mind and super soft blonde hair. And Nelle is this tomboy, brash but honest and innocent girl with unkempt short hair and much beloved overalls.

This book is simply the most delicious strawberry cake I've ever read.

But I'm not saying that this book is super sweet or as sweet as a lump of sugar.

This book is like a well-balanced cake, a mixture of just the right amount of sugar with the smooth-textured butter, balanced with a pinch of salt and the tangy sweet-sour taste of strawberry. And you can taste a hint of bitterness from baking powder, since it's a cake.

One thing I don't really love about this book is the character's persona kind of change along with the flow of the story? Now, I know that people do change, it's just, I feel like from around the middle of the book up to third last chapter, they were out of characters.

But I still think this is a great book. If you like Harper Lee and or Capote, I think you will adore this book..

Kirsty says

To Kill a Mockingbird is still my favourite novel of all time; I still remember how awestruck I was at its beauty when I first read it as a nine-year-old. I'm a big fan of Truman Capote's too; I have read all of his work at this juncture, and have adored almost all of it. When I found out about G. Neri's fictionalised account of the childhoods of Nelle Harper Lee and Truman Streckfus Persons - Nelle and Tru - then, I just had to read it.

The opening paragraph which Neri has crafted sum the pair up perfectly: 'When Truman first spotted Nelle, he thought she was a boy. She was watching him like a cat, perched on a crooked stone wall that separated their rambling wood homes. Barefoot and dressed in overalls with a boyish haircut, Nelle looked to be about his age, but it was hard for Truman to tell - he was trying to avoid her stare by pretending to read his book'.

The entirety of *Tru & Nelle* is beautifully written, and Monroeville immediately springs into vivid life. Neri has a deft hand in appealing to all of the senses from the outset, and one is soon aware of the sights and smells which made up the worlds of the children. A lot of factual information about the pair has been slipped

in, making *Tru & Nelle* feel incredibly realistic. Although the book is aimed at a younger ('juvenile') audience, in no way does the prose feel simplistic or dumbed down. The mystery element which was woven in worked very well, and gave an extra layer of focus to the whole. The dialect is handled well, and the novel is well stylised; entertaining, evocative, creative, and historically accurate. A must-read for all fans of Tru and Nelle's.

Karen says

2.5?

Macarena Yannelli says

Muy entretenido y conmovedor, narra la amistad durante la niñez de estas dos personas tan exitosas de la literatura contemporánea estadounidense.
