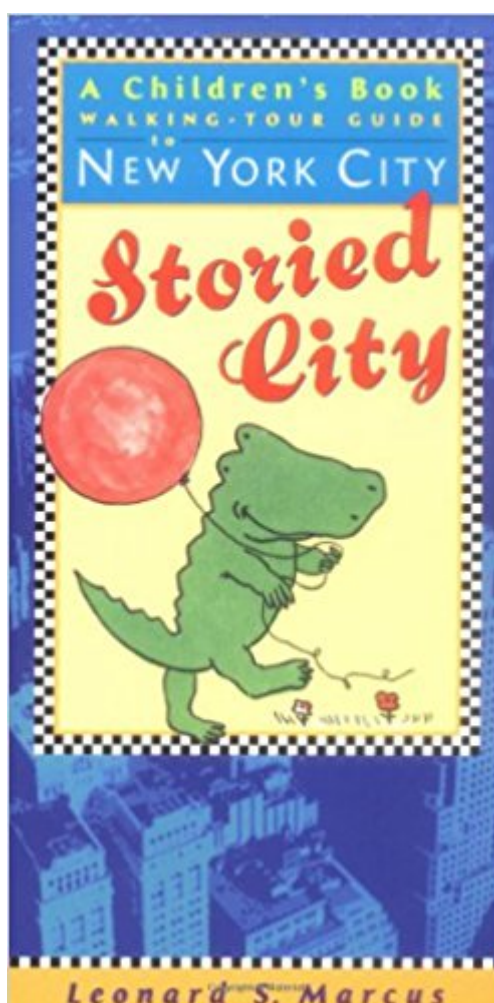


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# Storied City: A Children's Book Walking-Tour Guide To New York City



## Synopsis

In this handy-size book, renowned critic and historian (and New Yorker) Leonard S. Marcus has created and narrated twenty walking tours of New York City based on children's literature. Illustrated with maps, photographs, and book art, the tours can be followed from start to finish or abbreviated to suit a reader's, or a family's, particular interests. Together they feature over one hundred places and spaces by which New York has lit the imaginations of writers and artists as varied as E. B. White, Maurice Sendak, Judy Blume, Faith Ringgold, Madeleine L'Engle, and many more. Along the way, Marcus deftly discusses more than two hundred of the best books about New York City ever written for young people.

## Book Information

Paperback: 160 pages

Publisher: Dutton Juvenile; 1 edition (May 12, 2003)

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Product Dimensions: 4.3 x 0.4 x 8.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,638,614 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #41 in Books > Teens >

Hobbies & Games > Travel #42 in Books > Travel > United States > New York > New York City

#269 in Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Publishing & Books >

Bibliographies & Indexes > Literature

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

Grade 4 Up-Including both fiction and nonfiction, some popular titles and some less well known, Marcus has created a fascinating array of walking tours of New York City. The scope of this project is huge, and while not every literary landmark has been included, the author hits highlights in many of the neighborhoods of the city. Touring through each section, Marcus introduces history, characters, authors, anecdotes, quotes, and often parts of the specific stories from children's books. There are also maps and many illustrations from the books featured. Aficionados of children's literature will enjoy this title, as will city children and their families, or visitors familiar with these

famous scenes and stories. This guide can be used as a resource while touring specific locations, or as an interesting history, and can be an armchair tour if preferred. Historical background on authors, illustrators, and publishing helps tie the books into the history of the city, and a bibliography of children's books set in New York City is included. Don't come to town without this handy guide. JoAnn Jonas, Chula Vista Public Library, San Diego, CA Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Leonard S. Marcus is one of the most respected historians and critics in the field of children's books. His recently published *Ways of Telling: Conversations on the Art of the Picture Book*, was starred in *School Library Journal* as "highly readable, often humorous, and intensely rewarding." *The Horn Book*, in a starred review, said: "The interchanges are as valuable for his insights and creative connections as for his subjects' revelations. His judicious questions vary like the artists themselves."

We recently returned from a visit to Manhattan, having used this guide (along with several others); we found it enjoyable and useful. There are eleven tours: Lower Manhattan, Greenwich Village/East Village/SoHo, Flatiron District/Gramercy Park/Chelsea, Midtown Manhattan, Central Park/Upper East Side, Central Park/Upper West Side, Harlem/Northern Manhattan, Brooklyn, Bronx, Queens, Staten Island; each tour includes a map of the tour, an introduction, readable text concerning authors, book settings and the history of New York City, small pictures and line drawings, and lists of additional authors connected to each area. There is no information about amenities along the way (restaurants, bathrooms, playgrounds). We found a wealth of information and many literary references -- it would be smart to read this ahead of time so you can select and read some of the referenced books before your trip.

My daughter and I only received this book a day before our trip to New York City, what we did is look through the book after each day of exploring the city and go over what we saw and then went out and bought books that sounded interesting to her about those places. Great resource it's a shame it's out of print.

We used this book on our family trip to New York - Mom, Dad, and children ages 15, 13, 10, and 6. It was very easy to use and was a great companion as we toured the city on foot. Before we went, we read some of the books mentioned in "Storied City." Highly recommended if you are a family of book lovers.

Sounds like a fun way to spend an afternoon!

Leonard Marcus hit upon a great idea and developed it perfectly. As a teacher, it is difficult to teach history or literature to the young and make the readings come to life. "Storied City: A Children's Book Guide to New York City", besides being a charming idea, is also a handy tool for parents and teachers. With this extremely convenient guide, you can walk the kids through the neighborhoods they've read about and enliven their reading experience. And, most importantly, Marcus writes in a way that doesn't talk down to children, and that's a tremendous asset.

With clarity and affection born of familiarity and delight, Marcus covers over 200 places and spaces in New York that have made an appearance in books for children and teenagers. He tells you how to get there and what you will see when you do. It is a lovely size, easy to carry and to hold, and it will take you on a virtual journey even if you and your children can't do a real one.

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