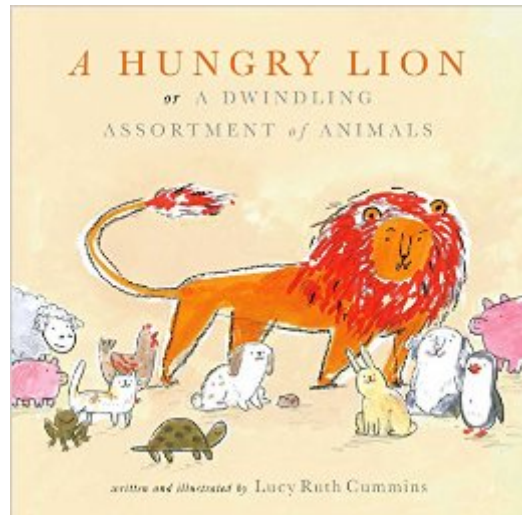


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# A Hungry Lion, Or A Dwindling Assortment Of Animals



## Synopsis

So smart and so cute and so dark all at the same time. Sheesh. Caldecott medal and honor winner, Jon Klassen. Once upon a time there was a hungry lion and a bunch of adorable animals | what do you think happened next? There once was a hungry lion, a penguin (Well he was just here |), a little calico kitten (I could have sworn I just saw him |), a brown mouse (Now wait a second |), a bunny with floppy ears and a bunny with un-floppy ears (Okay this is just getting ridiculous), a frog, a bat, a pig, a slightly bigger pig, a wooly sheep, a koala, a hen, and also a turtle. Hey! What's going on here | The very hungry lion is all set to enjoy an exciting day with his other animal pals. But all of a sudden his friends start disappearing at an alarming rate! Is someone stealing the hungry lion's friends, or is the culprit a little | closer to home? With sharp wit, adorable illustrations, and hysterical twists galore, this debut picture book asks "what do you think happened to the hungry lion's friends?"

## Book Information

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Atheneum Books for Young Readers (March 15, 2016)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.5 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.1 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars See all reviews (15 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #244,562 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #163 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Lions, Tigers & Leopards #3801 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Friendship #6602 in Books > Children's Books > Humor

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

A delightful and subtly subversive tale that will delight young kids (cute turtle!) and older ones alike (hey, there's only that cute turtle now...). Cummins' deceptively adorable illustrations carry you along as the rug is pulled out from under you with almost every page turn. Recommended for fans of I WANT MY HAT BACK and THE DARK and also lots of vintage Tomi Ungerer.

Just now read this and it is pretty darn charming. It reminds me a bit of *I Want My Hat* back by Jon Klassen. If you haven't checked that one out it's minimalist and the humor is wonderfully dry. People either love it or find it appalling. The animals in this book are much cuter and more brightly colored though. This book isn't quite as dry, but the humor is similar and centers around a silly mystery. As is subtly implied by the title, *A Hungry Lion or a Dwindling Assortment of Animals* may involve one animal eating others. Without giving too much away, this suitably short story features a lion and a motley group of animals that shrinks with every turn of the page. The narrator gets a little exasperated not only because they must amend their list of animals so frequently, but because the smug-looking lion won't explain what is happening to them. That lion knows something. But there's a happy ending, depending on who you're rooting for, I suppose. If the intended recipient of this book is extremely tender-hearted and sensitive and not ready to accept the idea of a carnivorous animal doing what they do naturally (albeit not within view of the audience), you have been forewarned. I would say it's easily a K-3rd grade book, as the listing suggests, but I'm going to try it out with my preschool-age storytime group too. They're pretty savvy and this book offers great opportunities for predictive reading (Where are the animals going?? Why is the lion making that face?) The reader (me) can also make the narrator sound quite dramatic, which I really appreciate.

There are few picture books that make me actually laugh out loud AND gasp while I'm reading them. This is one of those. Several times, in fact. I even read it aloud to other adults who laughed and gasped in all the right places. Lucy is brilliant, and if you don't think so, I have a cake for you...

A great little story with a surprise ending! Our daughter loves pointing to the various well-drawn animals and making their animal sounds, especially the lion! As a bonus, the story is amusing for parents too, who will undoubtedly be requested to read this over and over again.

The humor and mischief of this book are outstanding. From the voice of the narrator to the facial expressions of the dwindling assortment of animals. The illustrations are so joyfully brilliant, timeless yet contemporary. Absolutely loved it.

Delightful and macabre, Cummins' whimsical illustrations capture Lion's underhanded intentions perfectly. Readers will enjoy the hilarious twist at the end when the final animal left standing gets its

just desserts. Fast and funny this is sure to be in heavy bedtime rotation at our house.

Oh. That is...both not where I expected this to go and exactly where I expected. Kudos on surprising me. A lion and many little animals stand about. Page to page, several disappear at a time, until the lion is all alone...or so it seems. Yay! Everyone is okay! ...or so it seems. Kind of grimdark, actually....but I think this is the kind of humor that parents and kids will enjoy. Inversion of expectations and a proper punishment for a villain. The artwork is child-like, but done quite consistently. So the animals may be simply remembered, but you can identify each of them on each page where they...er...survive. This would make a good gift book, so long as you know the family receiving won't react poorly to animals being eaten. But, hey...they've got to learn sometime! Try it from your library if you're not sure.

So adorable. I won't ruin it for other readers, but there is a dinosaur involved. My son didn't quite understand the nuances of the story at first, but 4-5 readings later, he got it (he's 4).

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