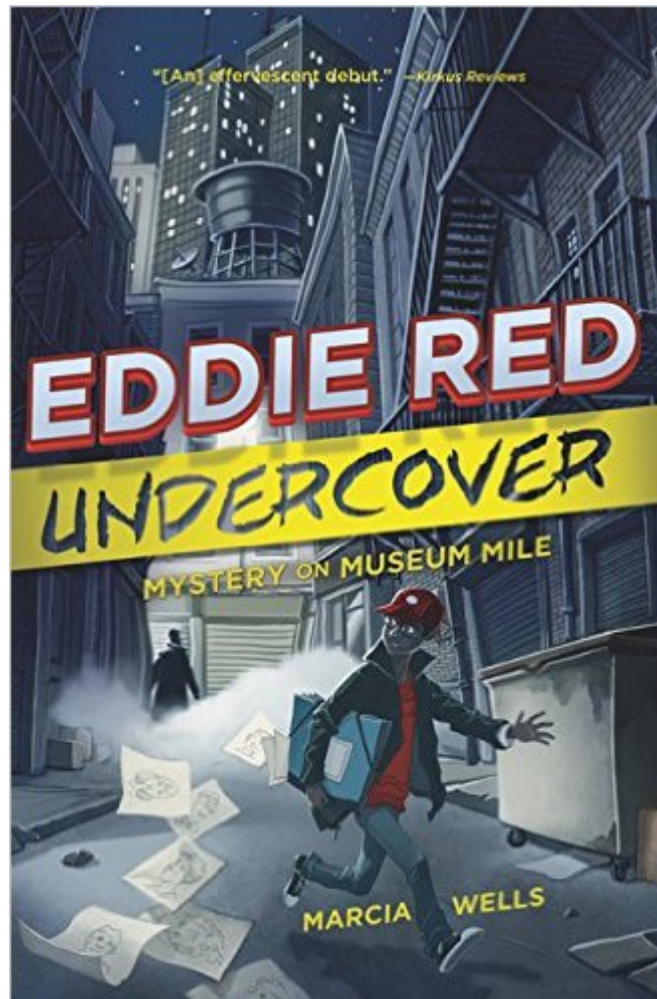


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# Eddie Red, Undercover: Mystery On Museum Mile



## Synopsis

"Bound to be a series that will appeal to fans of fast-paced mysteries." —SLJ  
Not many sixth-graders work undercover for the NYPD, but Edmund Xavier Lonrot, code name Eddie Red, is not just any sixth-grader. A near-death ice cream experience lands him as a material witness in the police station with his dad, where the NYPD first discovers Eddie's photographic memory and uncanny sketch-artist abilities. Things get dangerous when Eddie is recruited to help track down the infamous Picasso Gang that's casing NYC's famous Museum Mile. Look for the sequel on p. 53!

## Book Information

Series: Eddie Red Undercover

Paperback: 256 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; Reprint edition (March 3, 2015)

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Product Dimensions: 6.7 x 0.7 x 7.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 7 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars — See all reviews (47 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #4,910 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #9 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > City Life #9 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > United States #13 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > African-American

Age Range: 10 - 12 years

Grade Level: 5 - 7

## Customer Reviews

My 9-year-old son enjoyed this book, which is about what I expected since it is written for kids 9-12 years old. He said that it is "good" and that while there were some words he had difficulty with, he enjoyed it. I felt it was safe since he has been reading the Harry Potter books as well as books like "The Lightning Thief" by Rick Riordan. Eddie Red Undercover is told in the first person by, you guessed it, Eddie Red (real name: Edmund Lonrot), who is a precocious (probably an understatement) 11 years old. It is written in an enjoyable style. If you are an adult you won't mind reading it with your kids if you are one of those parents who enjoys doing so. I know our son's

school encourages taking turns reading aloud to each other. It is written in the voice of a modern kid, not the kids of my own generation, but if you watch movies and TV or have kids of your own, none of it will seem alien to you. I particularly enjoyed the first page, where Eddie identifies himself to the police with the thoughts, "Worst. Night. Ever." The story grabs you from the get go. Eddie has had something traumatic happen and he is in the police station and you don't know what, and the author isn't giving the game away too soon. So you read to find out what happened and by then you're hooked. But then there are those words your kid might need help with, like "stupor" or "quantum physics" or "idyllic" - words that most third graders don't encounter in their peer groups. But the story is well-written and in a voice a kid can relate to, and it is illustrated to boot with drawings of some of the characters (Eddie can draw anything he has seen), and it has a map right at the beginning. There is even an appendix at the end showing how to draw faces. If you've taken any art classes, this will be familiar to you. So all in all I'd recommend it. I can't give it 5 stars because my son said 4, but as a parent, I'd personally edge toward 5.

It's nice to find a kids' suspense/mystery book where thinking about the problem is what solves it, rather than just running in and hoping for the best. While I thought this book started a little clumsily, it finds its feet pretty quickly. Edmund and his family are hilarious. His best friend adds a whole new layer of amusingly strange. And while the whole premise of the novel - the cops asking a kid with a photographic memory to help on a case - is laughably unlikely, it holds itself together just fine. I'm going to pre-order the next one as soon as it's available. For parents considering this for a child, to my recollection it's 100% free of any sexual content or profanity. There is one running gag about a kid who once wet his pants at school laughing too hard, though the butt of the joke is not the kid who wet his pants, so it's not mocking that. There's a tiny bit of violence, but no serious injuries. Bullying is brought up as a tangent topic, and I assume will be explored more in further volumes.

I really enjoyed this book even though the book is written for a middle school reader. Eleven year old Edmund (a.k.a. "Eddie Red") is an artistic student with a photographic memory. As an African-American in a private NYC school, he never focuses on his minority status. Unfortunately, Edmund's father has lost his job so his parents break the news to him that they won't be able to afford the tuition to Senate Academy next year. This impending problem serves to motivate Edmund into finding a job to cover next year's expenses....but with the police department! This story line is funny, engaging, and presents positive character traits. Edmund's parents are wholesome; his police job is important, and his interest in art is commendable. There are many humanities-related

references that a middle schooler won't mind looking up. So often, fiction for this age group relies on negative images and violence. I honestly can't wait for the second book to be released next year. Teachers and parents....this book is very engaging!

Received this from GoodReads.com for review. My 11 yr old son read this and liked it a lot. He likes mysteries and he says this one is good. He likes that the book takes place in Manhattan, where he recognizes some of the locations. And he really likes maps, so the map inside the cover is appealing to him.

I first let my 4th grade son read this, and then I read it. He had it finished in about two weeks of off-and-on reading. He says he enjoyed the mystery aspect of it but he couldn't understand some of what the characters were talking about. After I read the book I can see what he means. Some of the dialogue tended to fly over his head, and I think it would for a big chunk of the book's intended audience. For example, Our Hero takes self-defense lessons and the instructor is, well, not what Our Hero is expecting. The instructor picks up on this and asks "who were you expecting, Mr Miyagi?" Thing is, my kid has no clue who Mr. Miyagi is. I have a feeling that if I polled his class very few kids would know. Things like that tended to yank my kid out of the story. I found the story itself quite good and written in an approachable style, and I thought the characters were engaging.

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