



## Brief Thief

*Michaël Escoffier, Kris Di Giacomo (Illustrations)*

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When Leon discovers that all the toilet paper is gone, he must find something else to use. He has no time to lose!

Spying something that looks just right, he goes for it and finished his business.

But what Leon hasn't counted on is that he'll begin to hear a little voice whose words will change just about everything!

## **Brief Thief Details**

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ISBN : 9781592701315

Author : Michaël Escoffier , Kris Di Giacomo (Illustrations)

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## From Reader Review Brief Thief for online ebook

### Michelle says

VA Young Readers

Escoffier, Michael,  
Language : English  
Second printing: January 2014

Publishers Weekly Book Review Stars, March 4, 2013 Cahners

When a Chameleon does his morning "business" he finds he doesn't have any toilet paper. He uses a pair of underpants. His conscience takes over and he cleans the underpants and puts them back where he found them. The end has an unexpected surprise.

This is a great read aloud. This book would be a great book to discuss right and wrong. It is also a fun book to read and just enjoy a good story.

Children in grades pk-3 would enjoy this story.

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### Samantha says

Oh my gosh this is a quirky HILARIOUS book!!! I have this strange sense of guilt for enjoying it because it gets so crude, but it's great, just plain GREAT!

When he runs out of toilet paper, a lizard steals a pair of underpants to finish his business. That's when his conscience chimes in and reminds him that he did a bad thing by taking those underpants. Try as he might to justify that those underpants were old and full of holes, the lizard eventually does the right thing and cleans them up.

Readers find out who the owner of the underpants is and why they had holes: they belong to a superhero bunny who wears them on his head!

Artwork is amaaaaazing! I LOVE the paint splotch treatment for the trees; it's pure GENIUS! Lots of great styles going on in the illustrations: paint, pencil, mixed media etc.

This book is super great and would make a funny read aloud, but I admit I don't know if I could get through it without blushing or cracking up!

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### Benji Martin says

I think this one is hilarious, and the kids do too.

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### **Arminzerella says**

Leon the lizard (he's a chameleon) has a bathroom emergency. When he runs out of toilet paper, he wipes up with a pair of old, holey underpants he discovers hanging from a tree branch. Ready to go about his day, Leon finds he is tortured by the voice of his "conscience," until he does the right thing – washes the underpants and hangs them out to dry. They are subsequently retrieved by a rabbit in a superhero costume, who pulls them on over his head and flies off to do whatever it is that rabbit superheroes do.

This is extremely goofy. Chameleons that poop in the woods. And have consciences. Consciences that might actually be rabbits with super powers throwing their voices. And ick! Ick! He wiped his butt with those underpants...THAT mask. Ick! But it's funny, and kids who are all into poop and underpants will find this hysterical. Also, the illustrations are perfect for this tale. An excellent collaboration by Escoffier and Di Giacomo.

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### **Amy says**

I honestly am speechless after reading this picture book...here is a quick summary. A lizard finds a pair of underwear hanging on a tree and uses them to wipe his poopy bum because he is out of toilet paper. When he is done, he throws the soiled underwear into a bush until his conscience bugs him and he takes them out, washes them, and hangs them back on the tree to dry. The book ends with a super bunny coming back to get his "super mask" and putting the underwear on his face.

Like I said...I am speechless. The book was originally published in France and translated to English. I do have to admit liking the illustrations but I'm still stumped at the subject matter.

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### **Nithusa says**

It's a great book! Everyone should read it. It's about the lizard named Leon. One day all of a sudden he need to go poo so the finds a nice tree to goes and he poops at but OH NO THERE IS NO TOILET PAPER! But wait problem solved he found a old underwear. He wipes his bottom thinking how he solved his problem. But did he really solve it? Or did he make a bigger and problem or should I say do-do. I got this book from the school library. :) :P

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### **Kate says**

3.5/5

A children's book about an iguana that finds a pair of "underwear" and the tosses them into the bushes. His conscience starts to nag him, so he collects them, washes them, and hangs them to dry. It turns out that they are actually a superhero's mask!

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### **Cheryl says**

Oversize, with extra-sturdy pages. Which is good, because this is a book that the excitable kids will especially love, and they'll want to grab the page from your hand to see what happens next. Hilarious. Loved it.

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### **Miriam says**

Daft. Laughed.

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### **Emily says**

Iguana finds a pair of underpants in the woods, ones he believes are long forgotten by the owner. Little does iguana know the damage he has done by using these unclaimed briefs.

This book is hilarious mainly because of the absurdity of the whole thing. No doubt a child would be rolling on the floor with these antics, I about died myself.

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### **Maureen says**

This book made me laugh out loud. The humor might be too subtle for young children, but my 8-year-old son also found it to be funny. Leon the chameleon is having a good day until he has to go poo and there is no toilet paper. He ends up using a pair of discarded underwear, but then his conscience makes him wonder if that was the right choice. A humorous story with a twist at the end. Boys will love the bathroom humor and the surprise character at the end.

The first difference I noticed in this book was the heavy card-stock pages that gave the book extra texture. The water color and ink illustrations enhance the author's text and add to the story on almost every page. Leon is drawn as a very expressive and funny character. Children could almost "read" this story by just using the illustrations.

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### **Carmen says**

We have a real winner here. This book is great.

From the page four, where the kid you're reading this with will look at you incredulously as the word "poo" appears, to its shocking surprise twist ending, you can't ask for better children's literature than this.

Leon is a chameleon. He has a nice breakfast, suns himself on a rock, drinks some coffee.

*And now, Leon has to go poo.*

Immediate giggling and checking my face for reactions from the children.

Leon goes to a nice tree to poo in private. The book implies this tree is random, but I'm calling bullshit because the tree is clearly fitted with a toilet-paper-roll-holder. Unfortunately for Leon, this holder is out of toilet paper.

What can Leon use to wipe?

He considers his options.

*Leaves? No, they're too prickly.*

*Grass? No, that will be too messy.*

Then, in a stroke of luck, Leon notices a pair of underwear hanging on a nearby branch. Perfect.

Wait! Do they belong to someone?

Nah, they're full of holes. Who would leave hole-y underwear in a tree anyway?

Leon uses the underwear to clean himself up and merrily goes on his way.

*HEY! Who do you think you are?*

Huh? What? Who said that?

*Yeah, you there. You think I didn't see that?*

It seems that Leon's conscience, in the form of a little voice from nowhere, has suddenly appeared. It gives Leon a good tongue-lashing and then orders him to wash the underwear.

Then, in a surprise twist ending, (view spoiler)

Wow. Stellar ending! Kids love this. This book is a hit on many levels. Plus, the pages are nice and thick. A+ Highly recommend.

Not available in Spanish.

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### **Jesse says**

Adorable with a slight ick factor. I loved the twist at the end, though!

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**Ann says**

Oh. My. Word. I love this book.

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**Jen says**

Laughed so hard I snorted! Give me more!

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