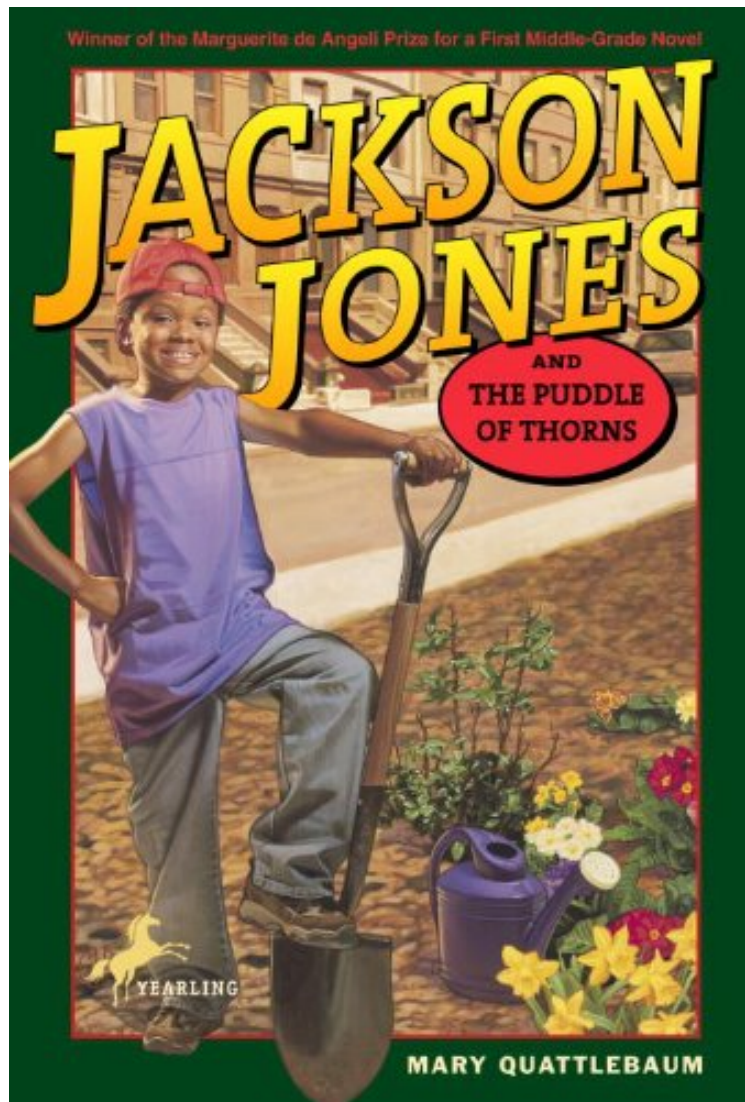


(Ebook free) Jackson Jones and the Puddle of Thorns (Jackson Jones (Quality))

## Jackson Jones and the Puddle of Thorns (Jackson Jones (Quality))

Von Mary Quattlebaum  
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**Von Mary Quattlebaum : Jackson Jones and the Puddle of Thorns (Jackson Jones (Quality))** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Jackson Jones and the Puddle of Thorns (Jackson Jones (Quality)):

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Jackson Jones is a delightful summer read ! Von Ein Kunde Jackson Jones and the Puddle of Thorns was a delightful, fun story. Jackson and his friends were real. They spoke like real kids, fought like real friends and had tender, loving hearts....like real kids. I used this book as an opening novel for my summer school class of 4th and 5th graders...mainly

boys. They loved it!! We planted a "puddle of thorns" at our school as a follow-up, and had to spend some time looking for packets of seeds for zinnias and nasturiums! A very fun book, well written and illustrated.

Kurzbeschreibung Nothing but a big mess of trouble and weeds..That's what Jackson Jones thinks of the garden plot his mother gives him for his tenth birthday. What happened to the basketball he's hoped and prayed for all year?When Jackson comes up with a moneymaking scheme for the garden, it doesn't seem so bad after all. He even cuts his friends in on the action. But before long, Jackson finds out that friends and business don't always mix. When the neighborhood bully calls him "Bouquet Jones," Jackson is ready to give up. Maybe gardens don't belong in cities after all...Winner of the first annual Marguerite de Angeli Prize.From the Trade Paperback edition.From BooklistGr. 3-6. Fast-paced and funny, this warm, affectionate novel about an inner-city neighborhood is the first winner of the publisher's annual Marguerite de Angeli prize for middle-grade fiction that reflects diversity. Jackson Jones tells his story in a wry contemporary voice, sometimes cool, sometimes desperate. He badly wants a basketball for his tenth birthday. Instead, his single-parent mom gives him a plot in the community garden, along with money for seeds, manure, and tools. He feels "flattened like a basketball hit by a Mack truck." He and his friends work out a plan to harvest the flowers for cash, but the garden turns out to be boring, hard work ("mud, plants, water . . . Lean, pull, toss"), and it seems to grow nothing but trouble and weeds. The story has a few surprising twists, but the real pleasure here is in the characters--from grandmothers to kids of all ages--and their lively talk. Jackson's mother worries that he doesn't have male role models; but there is Mailbags Mosely down the hall, who is working full-time and going to college. Then there's the school bully who sneers at Jackson and calls him Bouquet Jones. Jackson finds no neat answers. What he does find is community, a garden in the city that stretches far and wide. Rosales' jacket illustration of a smiling Jackson will lure kids to the ebullient story. Hazel RochmanFrom Kirkus sJackson Jones is a true-blue city kid, down to the soles of his Nike Air Jordans; he loves apartment life, shooting hoops, and writing comic books with best buddy Reuben Casey. Thus it comes as a shock when his mother, who ``never got over" growing up in the country, gives Jackson not a basketball but a community garden plot for his tenth birthday. Still, Jackson makes plans to grow flowers: they can be a birthday present for his mother--or sold to buy a basketball. Unfortunately, the garden also grows weeds and trouble--with friends like careful Reuben and principled Juana, and with enemies like bully ``Blood" Green. When flowers finally bloom (``...BOOM! Zinnias zinging. Nasturtiums knocking. Marigolds gleaming like gold"), Jackson can feel that ball in his palm, but then disaster strikes. It takes an artistic garden transformation, confessions, and apologies all around to salve wounds in time for Mama's birthday. The author brings smart, snappy dialogue and characters both funny (e.g., Juana's hellbent-but-sweet siblings) and admirable (big Mailbags Mosely, who ``looks like a buffalo smiling at a violet" as he labors in his garden, and goes to college when he isn't delivering mail) to this winner of the publisher's first annual Marguerite de Angeli prize for ``fiction that examines the diversity of the American experience." Illustrations not seen. (Fiction. 9-12) -- Copyright 1994, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.