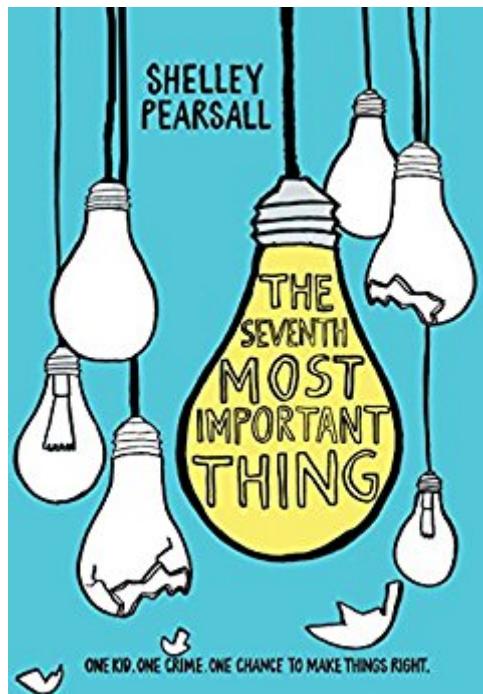


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# The Seventh Most Important Thing



## Synopsis

This *“luminescent”* (Kirkus Reviews) story of anger and art, loss and redemption will appeal to fans of Lisa Graff’s *“Lost in the Sun”* and Vince Vawter’s *“Paperboy”*. Nominated for 16 state awards! An ALA Notable Book! An ILA Teachers’ Choice! A Kirkus Reviews Best Book of the Year! Arthur T. Owens grabbed a brick and hurled it at the trash picker. Arthur had his reasons, and the brick hit the Junk Man in the arm, not the head. But none of that matters to the judge—he is ready to send Arthur to juvie forever. Amazingly, it’s the Junk Man himself who offers an alternative: 120 hours of community service . . . working for him. Arthur is given a rickety shopping cart and a list of the Seven Most Important Things: glass bottles, foil, cardboard, pieces of wood, lightbulbs, coffee cans, and mirrors. He can’t believe it—is he really supposed to rummage through people’s trash? But it isn’t long before Arthur realizes there’s more to the Junk Man than meets the eye, and the “trash” he’s collecting is being transformed into something more precious than anyone could imagine. . . . Inspired by the work of folk artist James Hampton, Shelley Pearsall has crafted an affecting and redemptive novel about discovering what shines within us all, even when life seems full of darkness. A “moving” exploration of how there is often so much more than meets the eye. • Booklist, starred review • “There are so many things to love about this book. . . . Remarkable.” • The Christian Science Monitor

## Book Information

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## **Customer Reviews**

I got this book so my son and I had a book to read over the summer; it was on the suggested book list. I enjoyed the book and it has been fun to discuss it with my son (13-yrs old).

Redemption is the theme of the book, The Seventh Most Important Thing. Redemption of junk into beauty. Redemption of poor choices...redemption of lives. This was such an unusual book. Thought provoking. After I read it I bought it for my 10 year old granddaughter. She loved it!

The Seventh Most Important ThingOne of the things I like most about this book is the opportunity for growth. In todayÃ¢â€¢s world, it is often easier to blame the circumstances of the individual for the actions taken in haste. Here these consequences lead to growth and a deeper understanding of the world around us and sometimes the rashness of our judgement.

Very entertaining book. My 11year old daughter was captivated by this storyline.

My daughter had to read this for reading club this summer.

My daughter needed this for a summer reading book in school. After poking though some of the pages myself... I read it and loved it too! an excellent story!

Got this for my 11 year old son's summer reading book. It kept his attention and he really liked it.

Me and my dad read this book and it was so good so good their were a lot of surprises very good book

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