***Lemons***

by Melissa Savage

**Annotation**

Lemonade Liberty Witt’s mama always told her: When life gives you lemons, make lemonade. But Lem can’t possibly make lemonade out of her new life in Willow Creek, California—the Bigfoot Capital of the World—where she’s forced to live with a grandfather she’s never met after her mother passes away.

Then she meets eleven-year-old Tobin Sky, the CEO of Bigfoot Detectives Inc., who is the sole Bigfoot investigator for their small town. After he invites Lem to be his assistant for the summer, they set out on an epic adventure to capture a shot of the elusive beast on film. But along the way, Lem and Tobin end up discovering more than they ever could have imagined. And Lem realizes that maybe she can make lemonade out of her new life after all.

**Book Talk**

What do you do when you lose everything that means anything?

Nine-year old Lemonade Liberty Witt doesn’t know the answer to that question, except what her mom taught her. When life gives you lemons, you make lemonade. But what if those lemons are so big that you forget how?

**Book Trailers**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7EOyZHywvbU>

**Author on the Internet**

* Website: <https://melissadsavage.com/books/lemons/>
* Twitter: @melissadsavage
* Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/Melissa.D.Savage.Writer](https://www.facebook.com/Melissa.D.Savage.Writer/)
* Instagram: melissadsavage

**Items to use in a library display**

* Lemons
* Bigfoot images, signs
* Twinkies
* Detective Badge
* Safari Hat

**Book Club Discussion Questions/Topics**

* From beginning to end, Lem’s (Lemonade Liberty Wit) opinions about Willow Creek, Charlie, and Tobin change. Describe the nature of these changes.
* Why do you think the author chose to set this story in 1975? How would it be different if it took place today?
* This book centers around Cryptozoology, which literally means hidden animals. How would this book be different if it were centered around a cryptid other than Bigfoot?

**First Line of the Book**

Bigfoot.

**Non-Fiction Companion Title(s)**

* Legend of Bigfoot by Katie Kawa
* Bigfoot by Elizabeth Noll
* Behind the Legend: Bigfoot by Erin Peabody
* Vietnam War: 12 Things to Know by Jill Sherman
* Cryptozoology

**What to Read Next**

* Flora & Ulysses by Kate DiCamillo
* Crenshaw by Katherine Applegate

**Other Books by this Author**

* *The Truth About Martians*

**Additional Resources**

* Food: Bigfoot droppings, Twinkies
* Art/craft activity: <http://www.theinspirationvault.com/how-to-make-bigfoot-cardboard-feet/>
* Interview with the author: <https://www.crackingthecover.com/qa-lemons-author-melissa-savage/>
* Lesson ideas <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Scientific-Method-Kitchen-Myth-Lab-Getting-the-Most-Out-of-Lemons-515693>
* Other: <http://www.stirthewonder.com/books-kids-bigfoot-sasquatch-yeti/>

**Name that Book**

“Did he say the middle of the woods? The woods where a real live woolly monster is supposedly living? Where there are bugs and snakes and bears and poison ivy and other generally disgusting and itchy and scary things? (p. 71)

“We’re in big trouble.

I mean *trouble,*

Like trouble with a capital T and an explanation point at the end.” (p. 161)

“She meets my eyes again and grins real big at me in the mirror. Then she stops brushing and pulls herself up on the counter next to me. ‘Tell me one. A wonderful memory of your mom. I’d love to hear it.’” (p. 212)

“And even if my brain did remember what I’m supposed to holler, my voice wouldn’t remember how to make the sound come out of my throat. And my fingers certainly don’t remember how to aim the Polaroid, or even that it’s around my neck.” (p. 293)

“And that’s when I see something I will always remember. For my whole life I will remember it.” (p. 267)

“It’s an important name. The most important name in the whole universe. I say it out loud every day so the universe remembers how important it is, and that it still matters to someone.” (p. 49)