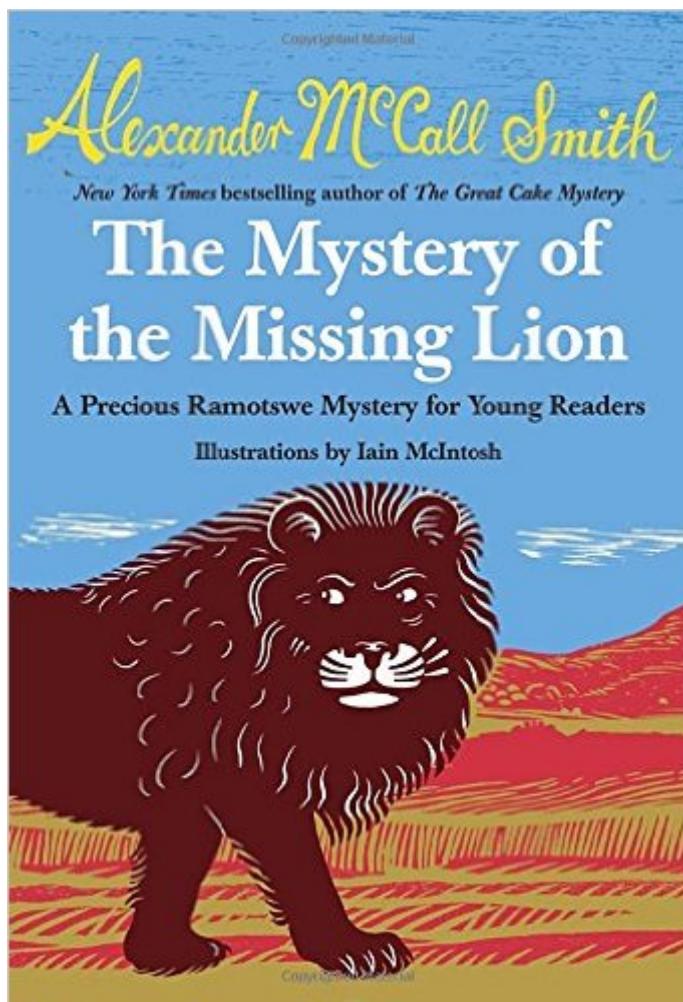


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# The Mystery Of The Missing Lion: A Precious Ramotswe Mystery For Young Readers



## **Synopsis**

A detective in the wild.Â Young Precious gets a very special treat.Â She gets a trip to visit her Aunty Bee at a safari camp.Â While there she makes a new friend, a boy named Khumo, and meets an actor-lion named Teddy, who is starring in a film.Â When Teddy disappears, Khumo and Precious will brave hippos and crocodiles as they search for the missing lion.Â With a Reader's Guide

## **Book Information**

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (27 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #204,280 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #129 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Africa #142 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Animals > Lions, Tigers & Leopards #1338 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Girls & Women

Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

## **Customer Reviews**

I love this series, but McCall Smith seems to be coasting with this one. The prose is lengthier and less kid - friendly than the other titles, needing an beginning chapter book editor. The plot is much less probable than The Great Cake Mystery; both the wild and the tame animal behavior portrayed seems wrong. Personally I felt it was too TWEE of a rap up. This series is too important (beginning chapter books with a female person of color, from a part of the world often ignored, held up as smart and scientific in her thinking) to coast through. All that said, this series continues to be a thorough delight -- here we're on safari in Africa with Precious aiding a flim crew on finding a missing trained lion!

The book was sitting in the new release section in the kids area of the library so I grabbed it. The

Mystery of the Missing Lion: A Precious Ramotswe Mystery for Young Readers(3) by Alexander McCall Smith sounded like a good book that I would enjoy reading with my son. I love the other books by the author so I knew that I would love the writing. His childrens books are just as entertaining as the adult books and perfectly on track with other kids chapter books. Young Precious gets a very special treat. She gets a trip to visit her Aunty Bee at a safari camp. While there she makes a new friend, a boy named Khumo, and meets an actor-lion named Teddy, who is starring in a film. When Teddy disappears, Khumo and Precious will brave hippos and crocodiles as they search for the missing lion. This is a great story about how Precious uses her detective skills to help the adults realize what they are doing wrong. It is a great story with the tilt towards what kids want to hear! I read it with my son and we both enjoyed the book and reading it together. The books pictures, although only in red, gray and black, were very vivid and reminded me of African artwork instead of graphics in a normal book. My son told me that we didn't have to read the educational part after the book because he didn't ever plan on going to Africa so he didn't need to know about it. I told him that we learn to read about things and we don't have to go there to appreciate the information about the country. He agreed but I think he just wanted to make sure that we didn't have to read it again to make sure he remembered all of the details. In the back of the book, there is also a section on pre-reading activities, discussion questions, and curriculum connections to geography, science, language arts and social studies. It is great that there is not only a book but with just a little more effort you could work this into an curriculum that you wanted to teach your kids at any level they are currently working at. I hope that you check this book out whether kid or adult and find out all the wonderful books that Alexander McCall Smith has for kids and adults alike!!!!

I have loved Alexander McCall Smith's Ramotswe series for decades and was very interested to see what he would do with a children's book. I would not say that they are as good as the adult stories but I can imagine that children will be quite taken with them and introduced to a totally different part of the world, a place Mr. Smith clearly loves.

This is a beautiful story suitable for both children and adults - or for them to read together. It also gives some lovely background on the childhood days of some of McCall's characters who appear as adults in his other novels. Delightful!!

In Botswana, Africa there was once a young girl, Precious Ramotswe, who grew up to become a famous detective when she founded The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency. Even as a youngster still

at school, long before she became famous as The No. 1 Lady detective in Africa, Precious had already made up her mind that someday, she would be a detective. In her first two cases "Precious and the Monkeys" and "Precious and the Mystery of Meercat Hill", Precious, with her natural curiosity and readiness to ask questions, had already shown promising signs that, even at her age, she had the aptitude for solving mysteries, the potential to be a detective someday. That Precious has the makings of a future detective is again seen in the story of her third case "Precious and the Mystery of the Missing Lion" in which Alexander McCall Smith tells us more of how the young Precious Ramotswe started on her life as a detective. The tale begins with Precious on a holiday trip staying with her Aunty Bee at Eagle Island safari camp in the Okavango Delta. While there, she makes a new friend, a boy named Khumo. Also there is Teddy, a gentle lion, tamed and trained - but longing to roam free in his natural habitat. When Teddy the lion goes missing from the camp, Precious and her new found friend Khumo have to use all their skills and resourcefulness as their search for Teddy takes them deep into the jungle - jungle full of danger from hippos and crocs. An engaging story for young readers. Running through the story, the theme Born to be Free, freedom of wildlife to roam as free as the wind in their natural habitat rather than raised in captivity, tamed and trained to live in restrictive man-made environments such as a circus. Beautifully illustrated with bold, vivid drawings of the African setting and a variety of wildlife, this charming book that both younger readers and adults can enjoy, provides a perfect introduction for younger readers to the wonderful storytelling gifts of Alexander McCall Smith. Here's one older reader for sure who will be looking forward to budding detective Precious Ramotswe's forthcoming cases in this excellent new series of stories once upon a time before she was famous.

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