



# The Kid Who Ran For President

*By Dan Gutman*

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"Hi! My name is Judson Moon. I'm 12 years old and I'm running for President of the YOU-nited States."

So begins this fast-paced, funny, and surprising account of a boy's run for the Oval Office in the year 2000. Under the tutelage of Lane, his brainy friend and self-appointed campaign manager, the affable sixth-grader from Madison, Wisconsin, takes on the Democrats and Republicans as a Third Party candidate who can make waves. "Grown-ups have had the last one thousand years to mess up the world," Judd tells a reporter. "Now it's our turn."

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## **The Kid Who Ran For President** By Dan Gutman Bibliography

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## Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

It doesn't take much for sixth-grader Judd Moon's best friend, Lane, to convince him that a kid rather than a grownup should lead the U.S. into the new millennium-and that Judd is just the boy for the job. Fast-talking Lane grabs the reins as his pal's campaign manager and the intrepid duo quickly obtains the necessary signatures to get Judd on the ballot for the Presidential election of 2000 (the novel opens in 1999). Lining up a blue-eyed, blond classmate as his "First Babe" and a wise if cynical elderly African American woman as his running mate, Judd establishes the Lemonade Party (named for the commodity sold at his first fundraiser) and promises to abolish all homework if his peers can convince their parents to vote for him. As the rookie politician's campaign takes off at a rollicking clip, readers will be caught up in the inventive absurdity of Gutman's (Taking Flight) plot. Despite the preposterous premise and the characters' endless stream of unrealistically clever quips and wisecracks, the author pulls off a feat as impressive as Judd's victory: he actually makes his hero a credible 12-year-old. This snappy, lighthearted farce will win kids' votes. Ages 9-13.

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From School Library Journal

Grade 4-7-Meet Judson Moon, the newest and most exciting presidential candidate in the year 2000 elections. How is he different from other candidates? First of all, he is 12 years old. Second, his friend and campaign manager, Lane, came up with the idea, and Judson is going along with it because it sounds like fun, not because he has a real understanding of the issues. And third, his running mate is an elderly African-American woman who used to be his babysitter. Judson's campaign is more successful than anyone could have predicted. Supporters even start sending him money to help out. The boy begins to realize he is in over his head, but still he goes on to debate the other candidates on national television. The voters love him and vote for him, but in the end, he decides to give up the presidency. How could adults vote a 12-year-old into office? Gutman makes readers believe anything is possible in these elections. Throughout the campaign, Lane brings up interesting political issues for discussion, such as why can't somebody younger than 35 run for president? Why are there amendments to the Constitution? Should politicians get sponsored by McDonalds? What are the journalists after? This humorous, informative book will be a fun read anytime, but particularly during this election year.

*Elisabeth Palmer Abarbanel, Los Angeles Public Library*

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From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 4<sup>+</sup>-6. Twelve-year-old Judson Moon knows little about presidential elections when he begins his campaign. He learns as he goes along, and so will readers. Coached by his politically savvy friend Lane, Judson makes campaign promises that inspire children across the country to send him contributions. This powerful special interest group pressures parents to press for a constitutional amendment abolishing age restrictions for the presidency: "All across America, kids refused to clean up their rooms. . . . They went swimming immediately after eating. Some of them even ate *while* they were swimming--the ultimate act of defiance." Readers may not catch all the satire, but with an eye-catching cover and plenty of humor, this first-person novel is an entertaining romp through the political process. *Carolyn Phelan*

## Users Review

From reader reviews:

**Willie Letchworth:**

Why don't make it to become your habit? Right now, try to ready your time to do the important take action, like looking for your favorite reserve and reading a publication. Beside you can solve your problem; you can add your knowledge by the book entitled The Kid Who Ran For President. Try to make the book The Kid Who Ran For President as your buddy. It means that it can to become your friend when you sense alone and beside associated with course make you smarter than ever before. Yeah, it is very fortunated in your case. The book makes you considerably more confidence because you can know every little thing by the book. So , let's make new experience and also knowledge with this book.

**Kathryn Robinson:**

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**Carol Jackson:**

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