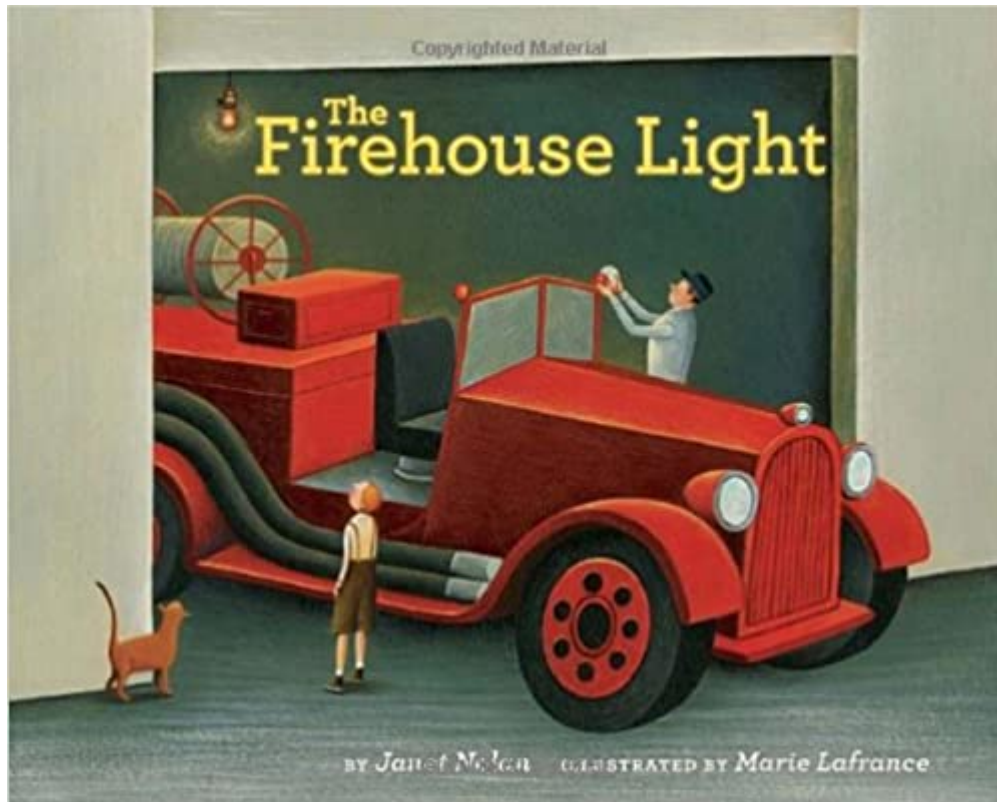




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# The Firehouse Light



## Synopsis

Day after day, year after year, the lightbulb did not burn out. Here is the true story of a little lightbulb, located in a firehouse, that has stayed lit for more than one hundred years. As horse-drawn carriages make room for automobiles, dirt roads give way to paved streets, and new buildings transform small clusters of homes into bustling neighborhoods, a small town grows and changes. And fighting fires changes, too: fires once fought by bucket brigades and hand-pulled hose carts are now attended by full-time firefighters and modern firetrucks. Yet now, just like then, the lightbulb glows, strong and steady, above the brave firefighters and their trucks.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 990L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Tricycle Press; 1 edition (May 25, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1582462984

ISBN-13: 978-1582462981

Product Dimensions: 10.9 x 0.4 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #385,431 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #38 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Electricity & Electronics #135 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > State & Local #191 in Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works > Mystery & Wonders

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

K-Gr 2 The history of firefighting is told through the story of a four-watt electric lightbulb that was installed in a wooden shack in Livermore, CA, more than 100 years ago. The bulb remained continuously lit as the shack became a fire station and the equipment progressed from horse-drawn carriages and water buckets to the fire engines and hoses of today. Nolan's unassuming storytelling is perfect for reading aloud. The line "Day after day, year after year, the lightbulb did not burn out" introduces each decade and the inventions it brought. Lafrances's acrylic paintings have a traditional, folk-art feeling as rural and small-town scenes evolve into modern

cityscapes. An afterword and a photo of the lightbulb still burning today are included. This is a fascinating story that will appeal to those looking for a unique perspective on American cultural history. Kristine M. Casper, Huntington Public Library, NY  
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Starting with volunteer firefighters “a long time ago,” this picture book explains and shows how firefighting and a community transform through time. A four-watt bulb installed in the firehouse during horse-and-buggy days glows through decades of change: from horses to automobiles; from axes and buckets to hoses and oxygen masks; from radios to television and computers: and from small town to contemporary city. The narrative successfully knits firefighting and history into a fast dash through the twentieth century, ending with a final page that explains that this account is based on fact. A real 109-year-old four-watt bulb continues to light a firehouse in Livermore, California. Flat, folk-style acrylic illustrations feature fluid, sinewy human figures amid a variety of vintage fire trucks. A good choice for children who seek offbeat nonfiction, this is also a fresh approach for units on community helpers. Grades K-3. --Linda Perkins

My son picked up this book at the library at age 2...because it had a truck on the cover. I thought it would be too long and involved, but right away it was one of his favorite books. He's four now and he and his 2-year-old sister both love it. I expect they'll both love it for years to come, because you can never be too old for this book. It's a neat history of both the light itself, but also of firefighting over time, and change over time in general. What a great way to introduce history and change to little and bigger kids. I love it myself. Oh, and a bonus--my kids have learned to "stop, drop, and roll" from this book!

The Firehouse Light is wonderful book. It is a joy to read to your kids and it is a book that you will want to keep in your permanent collection. The book follows the light through 100 years of history from bucket brigades to computers. The suspense of whether the light will last from decade to decade is moving. The illustrations are excellent. The picture of the firemen watching the man on the moon on TV at the firehouse is special, for example. The prose is wonderful. There is a very nice balance between the story of the light and the surrounding history over the last century to keep your kids very interested. They will want to have it read to them again and again. I highly recommend this book to your family and know that you will want to keep it for years to come. The idea of the small little light staying lit year after year and thereby allowing the fireman to find the

equipment that allows them to help the townspeople has an almost spiritual quality to it. I can see why the light is so celebrated by the book. You and your children will enjoy this story.

I think it's good to teach kids history. This book helps.

We live in Livermore where this story is based on. I did not know this book was written until a friend said she bought it at . So I bought 2. One for each of my adult kids, who visited this firehouse as children. Now we will have the story for the grandchildren.

This is an excellent book. The illustrations are beautiful. The story is very interesting. The history lesson written in a predictable style makes this a great book for kids of all ages.

Kids enjoyed the book. I bought them little fireman hats and read the story. The only problem was the packing. The first one was damaged and had to return it.

This is a true story and the students loved hearing about it.

I love this book.

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