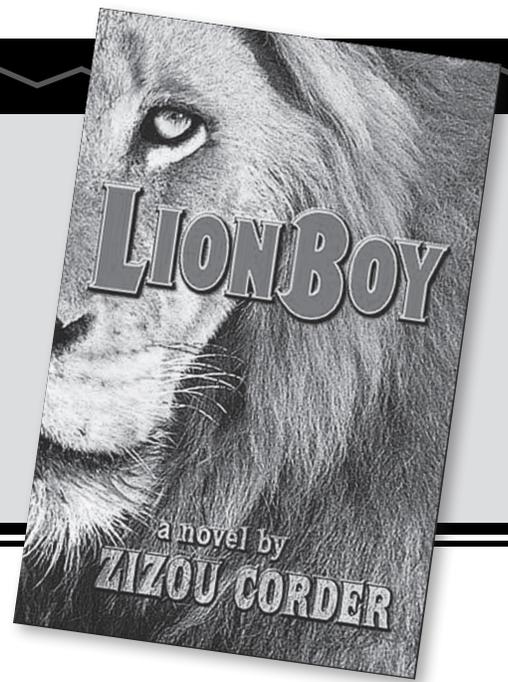


A Dramatic Book Review featuring

# Lionboy

by Zizou Corder



## Actors' Responses

1. **Charlie** ["Meow"]
2. **Cat** ["Purr"]
3. **Floating Circus** [*Wave arms over head*]
4. **Allergies** [Sneeze "Achoo"]
5. **Lions** [Growl "Grrrr"]
6. **Rafi** ["Hiss"]
7. **Corporacy** ["Boo"]

## Script

The story *Lionboy* takes place in the future, where pollution has made the air so toxic that many children are suffering from **allergies**. The hero of this adventure tale is **Charlie**, a boy who speaks **cat**. Charlie is happy he can speak **cat**—especially when **Rafi**, an employee of the evil **Corporacy**, kidnaps him. The **Corporacy** might seem like a good organization, because they make medicine to help people suffering from **allergies**. But in reality, this greedy group has taken **Charlie's** scientist parents against their will, because if they can cure people's **allergies**, no one will buy the medicine anymore.

**Charlie** uses his wits to escape from **Rafi** and, with the help of the local **cats**, joins a **Floating Circus** that is sailing to the location where his parents are being held captive. While caring for the **lions**, a main attraction of the **Floating Circus**, he learns the **lions** are being mistreated.

Will **Charlie** help the **lions** run away from the **Floating Circus**? Will his parents escape from the **Corporacy** and find a cure for the **allergies**? Is **Rafi** as evil and clever as he thinks? The answers to these questions can be found in *Lionboy*, written by Zizou Corder.

# Create a Word for the Future

To create a word for the future, use a spinner or roll a die three times to get three numbers. The first number will determine the PREFIX of your word, the second will determine the ROOT of your word, and the third will determine the SUFFIX of your word. Circle each word part in the appropriate column and combine them to make a new word. Pretend this new word will soon be used in everyday conversation. Write a definition for the word, use it in a sentence, and find its place in a dictionary.

	Prefix	Root	Suffix
1	extra [beyond]	biblio [book]	esque [style]
2	multi [many]	cerebral [brain]	less [without]
3	neo [new]	cosmo [universe]	oid [like]
4	proto [first]	mania [madness]	ology [study of]
5	tele [far]	retro [backward]	phobia [fear]
6	ultra [excessive]	xeno [foreign]	scribe [write]

**Possible Word in the Future:** neobibliophobia

**Definition:** The unreasonable fear of new types of books

**Sentence:** The boy experienced neobibliophobia when he received a singing book for his birthday.

**Pretend this new word is in the dictionary.**

In which dictionary will your word appear? The American Heritage Dictionary

On what page would you find this entry? Page 892

What are the guide words on this page? Neiva – neoteric

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# Plan the Perfect Plant

The future-world scientists in *Lionboy* are skillful. They are able to create hybrid animals like Primo, the unusual lion, by using ancient DNA. What if they had used their knowledge to create the perfect plant? This type of vegetation would be a single, natural resource capable of providing many things to make a polluted world a healthier and happier place.

**Directions:** Use your imagination to create a plant that is capable of providing positive things for environment and all living things. Be prepared to share your ideas with the class.

**Plant's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Positive Characteristics:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

**Capable of supplying:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

**Extra Credit**

**Unintended consequences** are the unexpected and unplanned results of a decision or action. Think of at least five unintended consequences that might result when a “perfect plant” is introduced into the environment.



# Extension Activities

- **Art/Ecology.** The future world is often depicted as one in which the environment has suffered at the hands of irresponsible people. Have students help you decorate the library in a way that shows their support for a clean planet by using the “Paper Plate Earth Day Wreath” found at <http://www.dltk-kids.com/crafts/earth/mplatewreath.htm>.
- **Economics.** *Lionboy* takes place in the future, where the “diram” is the common currency used to purchase goods and services. Ask students what they think will be used as money fifty years from now, and put them in small groups to answer the questions below. When they have finished, invite them to share their ideas with the class.
  1. What do you think money will be called in the future?
  2. What will this money look like?
  3. Where will people go to handle money matters?
  4. Will banks exist?
  5. How will money be used?
- **Discussion: Perspectives on the Future.** The future is an interesting concept that many famous people have pondered. Write each of the quotes below on a separate piece of paper. Ask six students to come to the front of the class to read one quote each, and then challenge the class to rank the quotes by what they feel is the most hopeful to the least hopeful. Encourage class discussion and rearrange the ranking if necessary. For extra credit, ask the students to provide background information about the famous people who made these statements.
  - “The best thing about the future is that it comes only one day at a time.” Abraham Lincoln
  - “Without forgiveness there is no future.” Desmond Tutu
  - “I don’t try to describe the future, I try to prevent it.” Ray Bradbury
  - “I never think of the future—it comes soon enough.” Albert Einstein
  - “The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.” Eleanor Roosevelt
  - “I like the dreams of the future better than the history of the past.” Thomas Jefferson
- **Further Reading.** Students who like reading stories that take place in the future may find these books interesting:
  - *Among The Hidden* [Series] by Margaret Peterson Haddix. Aladdin, 1998.
  - *The City Of Ember* by Jeanne DuPrau. Random House, 2003.
  - *The Diamond of Darkhold* by Jeanne DuPrau. Random House, 2008.
  - *The Ear, the Eye, and the Arm* by Nancy Farmer. Viking Penguin, 1994.
  - *The Game* by Monica Hughes. Simon and Schuster, 1990.
  - *The Giver* by Louis Lowry. Dell Yearling, 1993.
  - *The House of the Scorpion* by Nancy Farmer. Simon and Schuster, 2002.
  - *Lionboy: The Chase* by Zizou Corder. Viking Penguin, 2004.
  - *Lionboy: The Truth* by Zizou Corder. Viking Penguin, 2005.
  - *The People of Sparks* by Jeanne DuPrau. Random House, 2004.
  - *The Supernaturalist* by Eoin Colfer. Hyperion, 2004
  - *The Time Machine* by H.G. Wells. TOR Books, 1988.