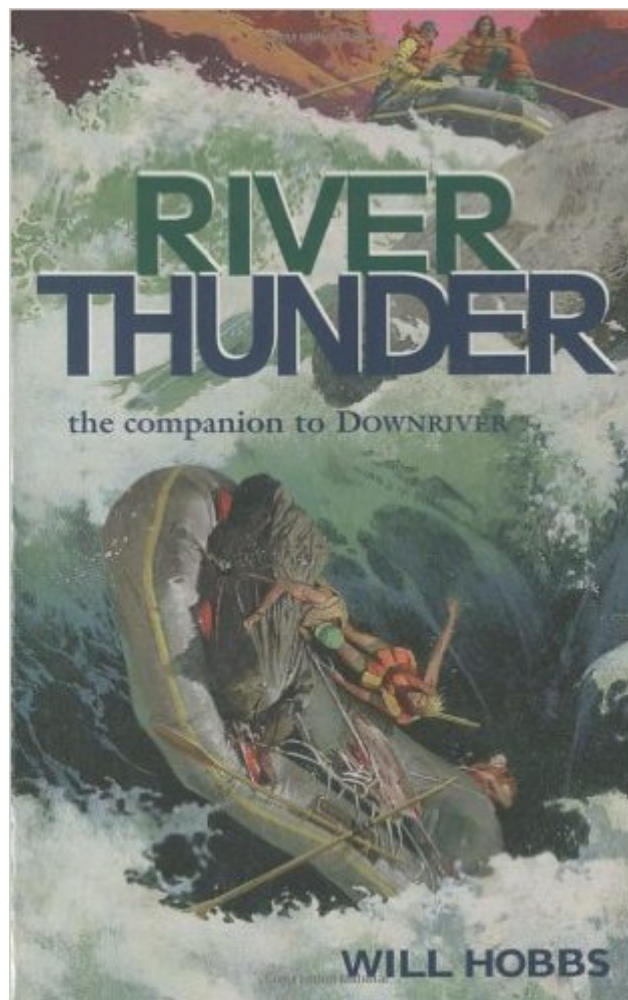


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# River Thunder



## Synopsis

Jessie, Troy, and the rest of the crew from Downriver have returned to the Grand Canyon for adventure down the Colorado River. In the year since they last were together, each has changed; each feels more mature. But how will they interact now that they are facing new challenges--challenges greater than anything they've had to deal with at home? For Troy, it is a chance to prove he can be a team player, someone worthy of friendship and love. For Jessie, the river is the ultimate test. Does she have what it takes to row down the mighty Colorado? The only way to find out is to get into the raft and set off to face the thundering rapids and the powerful emotions that the river unleashes.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 760 (What's this?)

Mass Market Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: Laurel Leaf (February 9, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0440226813

ISBN-13: 978-0440226819

Product Dimensions: 4.2 x 0.6 x 6.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (31 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #448,565 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #17 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Rafting](#) #1407 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Water Sports](#) #4594 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Action & Adventure](#)

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

A very good book to read for middle school students. This was bought for my grandson's summer reading project. I am reading it also. Learn about rapids and how strong you must be to do this kind of a sport. My grandson likes the book also.

I love this book and its companion novel downriver. I read them both when I was in jr high and remember myself reading both books twice in the time it took the class to read them. I loved them so that once I had a kindle of my own these books were of the first to be purchased, and have been

read several times since. I just got through rereading this book and remembered something I would like to comment on the book that has given in this form. I know that they have people who type these books out for the kindle usage but some one needs to read this because the amount of typing errors are staggering. It makes it difficult to read in several places example many of the words that are supposed to be "the" ended up "die" I really hope someone reads this and corrects this soon I love this book and want to see it in its original text.

River Thunder is a very good and exciting book. The book takes place on the Colorado River for 14 days. A group of friends met at the river to go on the best journey ever. Throughout the book it takes you through countless rapids second by second. It has crashes, thrill rides, and relationships. The best part is where they go over the lava rapid, the most deadly rapid at three times its normal force. It's got everything in it that you could want: mystery, excitement, and adventure. It's a book for people who like a good mystery and who like cool, at the edge of your seat, thrill rides in your mind. This is an awesome book that really sucks you in.

River Thunder, written by Will Hobbs, is a great book for readers who are addicted to adventure and love fiction stories. I think the author laid this story out very well. It is an exciting adventure that takes place at the river, by the Grand Canyon, where Troy thinks he has a chance to prove to the others that he has changed. Changed from what? Troy and his friends, Jessie, Adam, Star, Rita, and Pug, all try to believe him but end up discovering other things. This is a group of kids who went to have a good time, but end up meeting the challenge of their lives. I'll leave you with that information and hope you take time to read this book. I myself am not an adventurous person, but my friends like adventure stories and they enjoyed this book; I hope you will too.

The Hoods in the Woods are back on the river, this time a bit older and for the most part, a whole lot wiser. There are stories that are plot-driven and those that are character-driven, but Will Hobbs does an excellent job of combining the two styles. Set during the historic flood of 1983, the novel is a wild roller coaster of adventure, increasing challenges and danger and emotional drama. I mentioned in my review of Downriver that it was fun to follow along with the story by looking up you-tube videos of the rapids Jessie and her friends are running. For River Thunder, I'd recommend one titled 1983 High Water Grand Canyon, which shows in pictures and videos the conditions these kids are facing. Will Jessie conquer her fears? Will Troy find redemption? Hang on tight and find out.

This is an excellent sequel to Downriver. It continues the story of the Hoods in the Woods as they return to the Grand Canyon and continue to face personal and group conflicts. There is more technical information about the river itself, which is interesting. The formatting for the book is horrible. There is no chapter index and it is riddled with spelling errors. There are enough errors that it detracts from the content. Hopefully, at some point they will fix this.

I checked River Thunder out from the library, not realizing it was a "young adult" book. Despite being twenty years older than the intended audience, I thoroughly enjoyed listening to this book. River Thunder follows the summer adventure camp follies of Jessie who is struggling to get along with her father. She finds herself in the woods of Colorado with a group of semi-delinquents sent to recover, or grow up, through the hardships of life in the woods. The kids bond and blossom while rebelling against the quasi sadistic group leader Al. They eventually steal his van and gear and set off to raft the Colorado river through the Grand Canyon without him. The gang finds themselves traversing increasingly risky rapids, and the book manages to be suspenseful in a backdrop of beautiful, desert nature. I found this a welcome treat after having listened to too many suspense novels centered around urban crime and murder. The book manages to be full of action and suspense without resorting to violence, and a world which is not human is what teaches the characters humility and leaves them with new found maturity. The teens eventually learn lessons, but author Will Hobbs manages to keep them from feeling trite. Audiobook performer Christina Moore does a masterful job which I believe is hard to do when asked to speak as a cast of teens. She manages to sound authentically youthful without trying too hard to sound young and hip. She seamlessly moves, for example, from speaking as an angst ridden teen girl, to being a withdrawn Native American youth, to being a male class clown, without skipping a beat. Each voice embodies the individuality of the character without any regard for Moore's true gender or age. River Thunder will please young and "old" adults alike.

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