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Rikki-Tikki-Tavi



Synopsis

Here is the thrilling story of Rikki, a fearless young mongoose who finds himself locked in a life-and-death struggle to protect a boy and his parents from Nag and Nagaina, the two enormous cobras who stalk the gardens outside the family's home in India. Nobel Prize winner Rudyard Kipling's timeless masterpiece has been lovingly passed from one generation of readers to the next. Triumphant brought to life in stunning watercolors from Caldecott Honor artist Jerry Pinkney, this is a tale that will win the hearts of young and old alike

Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD810L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 48 pages

Publisher: Morrow Junior Books (September 26, 1997)

Language: English

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Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 1,246 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #36,291 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #63 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Mammals](#) #549 in [Books > Children's Books > Classics](#) #609 in [Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

Customer Reviews

With this newly illustrated edition of the treasured classic--written in the 1890s as part of the Jungle Books--readers can once again be captivated by the tale of a mongoose who is taken in by a family of British colonials living in India. Although a few Victorianisms in the text will need to be explained to young readers, the story has held up remarkably well over a century's time. Rikki's fight to defend his family from the menacing cobras Nag and Nagaina remains as suspenseful and emotive as ever. The creatures of the Indian garden come truly alive in Kipling's expert prose--the birds sing out messages of joy and warning; the cobra rears and spreads his sinister hood; the brave mongoose leaps and springs, victorious at last. In Davis's (*The Jolly Mon* ; *Trouble Dolls*) acrylic paintings, dominated by the greens of the garden and the browns of the earth, readers can clearly see the

nut-colored mongoose, his adoptive family in their period dress and the slithering snakes. However, the artist's style and chosen medium produce a somewhat flat, torpid appearance. Razor-sharp writing with rather dull artistic accompaniment. Ages 6-up. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Kindergarten-Grade 4. In this glorious picture book, Pinkney's accessible retelling and dramatic watercolors plunge readers into the lush garden Rikki rules and the life of the family he comes to guard. The large pictures (often spreading across much of a facing page) can barely contain the mongoose's energy as his lithe body twists and turns, evading and attacking the cobras and the brown snake, curling in young Teddy's arms, and basking in the family's adulation. Pinkney's humans are not idealized, and Rikki, while eminently pettable, is not anthropomorphized. The subdued natural colors of the animals contrast with the garden's riot. The splash of a yellow squash blossom; Teddy's crimson shirt; a scarlet hibiscus; or the burnished head of Darzee, the tailor bird, add grace notes to the shimmering pages. This great story has been given the loving treatment it deserves. ?Patricia Lothrop-Green, St. George's School, Newport, Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Grew up knowing that the name was that of a mongoose, and that they are noted for killing snakes. Also knew that the basic story was about one such mongoose that protected a family from a snake. Was interesting to finally read it and get the full story with Kipling's typical anthropomorphizing of the mongoose and the cobra(s). Action was exciting and not too much over the top. Overall, I liked it but didn't completely love it.                        

I used to watch the animated film when I was a little kid. When I was in middle school, my class read the original story. In high school, I ended up doing an analytical essay on Mr. Rudyard Kipling and his allegorical works. So yeah I more or less grew up with this story. And of course I had to purchase an e-copy on Kindle. My nephew reads it to me sometimes when we practice his reading. Pretty unique and charming story. I don't think I see many stories like it these days. Always an interesting tale that actually captures the zeitgeist of Kipling's times and translates those feelings through the plot and the characters in this somewhat unconventional story.

I have always enjoyed The Jungle Book and even the watered down versions brought forth via children's cartoons have been entertaining. Up until now, I have never shared anything other than

the cartoon versions of this book with my son due to some of graphic narrative, and graphic may be too strong of a word here. For example, the hot red eyes before killing the snakes and the inner voice of Rikki-Tikki troubleshooting just how to bite the back of the head to paralyze and kill. Another example is how Darzee sings a song in Rikki-Tikki's "honor" after having killed Nag and how killing Nag's wife is the only way to protect the garden as well as killing all the eggs. All of this with no real sorrow, regret, or remorse. My son will be 10 soon and with his reading level being higher than his grade level, he is bringing home books from the library that have issues such as The Jungle Book, so I am going to look into getting a good copy of the whole, non-watered down and cartoon version. Thank you for having this available so that my kiddo could get a taste of the story and let me know that he wants more.

If you want an introduction to the writing style of British Rudyard Kipling at his simplest and best and to the pen and ink illustrations of a man with the last name of Drake which are beautiful...this is a great book and part of the Jungle Book Series specifically written for children; it's somewhat autobiographical because Rudyard Kipling is writing about the experience of living in India where he himself grew up, surrounded by the King Cobra. It is a disturbing story...but is metaphorical in its use of a mongoose against a cobra...fearless in its fight to combat and defeat evil in and around the family, using a garden as a microcosmic world that must live with the constant tension between good and evil, peace and war, safety and risk. The book is a very thin, flexible covered trade size book; not much to it...it's an inexpensive reproduction, I think, but nicely done; a nice, first-time intro for someone who doesn't want to spend a lot.

RikkiTikki-Tavi is a Rudyard Kipling favorite of mine! Very suspenseful and adventurous, the story unfolds with a brave little mongoose battling Nag and Nagina, the evil cobra snakes. Rikki- Tikki-Tavi wins every readers' heart as he heroically fights to defend the people he loves.

I received this book free on , so not sure how much complaint is justified. No problem with the story, but the ad stated the ebook was full of pictures, which was an added incentive for me to get it. It was meant to be read together with my four year old grandson. Children learn better visually. Just an example: Have you ever tried to describe a Mongoose to a four year old, without a picture? Someone dropped the ball on this one...

He writes like it is a fairytale, but it is actually based on fact. I have never seen a mongoose but the

tale made me love the creature.Are there more of such tales by his hand?

I LIKE MONGOOSE AND SNEKS!!!

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