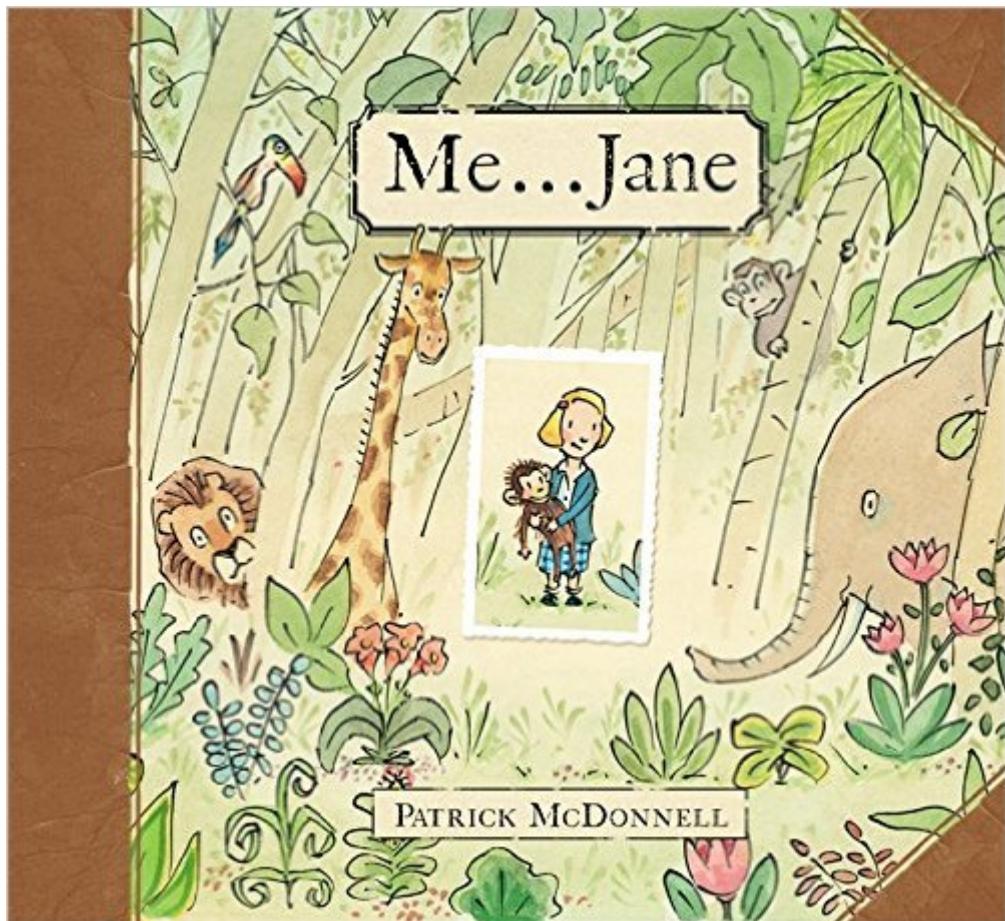


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Me . . . Jane



Synopsis

In his characteristic heartwarming style, Patrick McDonnell tells the story of the young Jane Goodall and her special childhood toy chimpanzee named Jubilee. As the young Jane observes the natural world around her with wonder, she dreams of "a life living with and helping all animals," until one day she finds that her dream has come true. One of the world's most inspiring women, Dr. Jane Goodall is a renowned humanitarian, conservationist, animal activist, environmentalist, and United Nations Messenger of Peace. In 1977 she founded the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI), a global nonprofit organization that empowers people to make a difference for all living things. With anecdotes taken directly from Jane Goodall's autobiography, McDonnell makes this very true story accessible for the very young--and young at heart.

Book Information

Age Range: 1 - 7 years

Lexile Measure: 740L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers; 1st edition (April 5, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0316045462

ISBN-13: 978-0316045469

Product Dimensions: 8.6 x 0.5 x 9.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (116 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #11,007 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Biographies > European #7 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works > Mystery & Wonders #21 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Women

Customer Reviews

I cannot remember the last time I picked up and read a children's book that grabbed and held my attention quite a firmly as this work. Perhaps it was the subject matter. Perhaps it was the simple declarative prose. Perhaps it was the whimsically executed art work. Perhaps it was the fact that it was about Jane Goodall herself. I suspect it is a combination of all these factors, but what ever it was, it certainly worked for me! This is the story of Jane Goodall as a young girl presented in a way that is bound to appeal to the targeted age group of 4 to 8. It features Doctor Goodall as a little girl and her stuffed chimpanzee as (Jubilee) they begin an adventure which will take her on an amazing

life adventure far, far from her home; an adventure that is continuing to this day. We see the young Jane becoming more and more fascinated with the natural world around her as she investigates the "exotic" wildlife around her such as squirrels, barnyard chickens and birds. Her vivid imagination and natural curiosity shine through on every page and we are treated to a glimpse of the Jane to come. The text here is simple...."One day, curious Jane wondered where eggs came from. So she and Jubilee snuck into Grandmas Nutt's chicken coop..." While simple, it most certainly tells a story; a story of growth and of one that will enchant and inspire the wee ones just getting started. The illustrations are beautifully done; simply yet extremely well executed and go perfect with the text. On each facing page the author/illustrator has featured lightly printed engravings of a bygone age behind the print on the page. This is extremely effective.

I don't usually think of biographies, even picture book biographies, as good choices for the youngest children, but author/illustrator Patrick McDonnell, who has numerous picture books and the nationally syndicated Mutts comic strip to his credit, has changed my mind. His just-published picture book about Jane Goodall, the internationally renowned chimpanzee researcher and crusader for wildlife conservation, would make a great read-aloud for preschoolers as well as early elementary school students, and in fact, its simple, inspirational story and charming illustrations can be enjoyed by all ages. McDonnell's whimsical, childlike watercolor and ink illustrations are the star of this little book, which has very minimal text. We meet the child Jane with her prized stuffed chimpanzee, Jubilee, who accompanies her on all her adventures. Jane loved to be outside from an early age, taking great joy in observing nature and even writing about it in her notebooks (a page from which, complete with misspellings, is reproduced in this volume). "It was a magical world full of joy and wonder, and Jane felt very much a part of it." Jane sits high up in her favorite tree, reading the adventures of Tarzan and another girl named Jane in far-off Africa, and dreams of a life in Africa helping animals. At the end of this book, we see a grown-up Jane, waking up in a tent, befriending a real chimpanzee who looks much like Jubilee. I loved everything about this book, including the nostalgic design, with the eggshell colored paper, old-fashioned type face, subtly colored illustrations which somehow give the book an old-fashioned tinge, and the use of ornamental engravings from the 19th and early 20th century, which appear to have been subtly stamped on the pages.

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