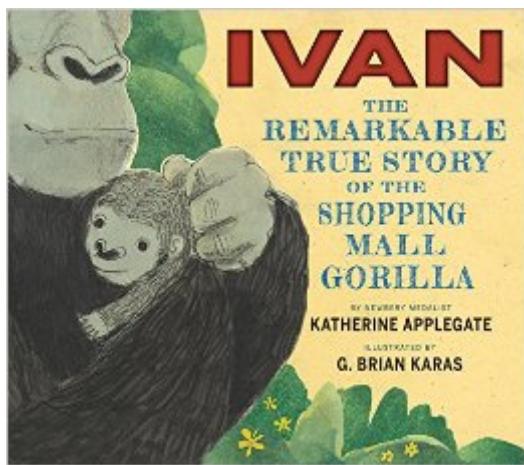


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Ivan: The Remarkable True Story Of The Shopping Mall Gorilla



Synopsis

In a spare, powerful text and evocative illustrations, the Newbery medalist Katherine Applegate and the artist G. Brian Karas present the extraordinary real story of a special gorilla. Captured as a baby, Ivan was brought to a Tacoma, Washington, mall to attract shoppers. Gradually, public pressure built until a better way of life for Ivan was found at Zoo Atlanta. From the Congo to America, and from a local business attraction to a national symbol of animal welfare, Ivan the Shopping Mall Gorilla traveled an astonishing distance in miles and in impact. This is his true story and includes photographs of Ivan in the back matter.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD680L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 74 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #70,957 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #62 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Zoos #100 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Apes & Monkeys

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

K-Gr 2 Ivan was born in the Democratic Republic of Congo in 1962. When he was about six months old, he and another baby gorilla were kidnapped by poachers. They were sold to a mall in Tacoma, WA, that also had other animals. The other baby gorilla, however, died shortly after they arrived in the United States. This is the story of how Ivan went from a lonely existence in a shopping mall to living with other gorillas once more. Narrator Xe Sands complements Applegate's masterfully crafted picture book. Although her narration is a little slow, younger readers will appreciate the extra time to fully take in the captivating, colorful illustrations. The chimes for page turning are timed correctly and do not distract listeners. VERDICT Young children who are interested in gorillas or

enjoy the read-along experience will love this. ["Convey[s] the sense of loneliness and isolation that marked the gorilla's existence": SLJ 7/14 review of the Clarion book.] •Kira Moody, Whitmore Public Library, Salt Lake City

For those who loved the Newbery Award-winning The One and Only Ivan (2012), Applegate has created a picture-book adaptation of the true story. A baby gorilla from central Africa is captured and taken to Tacoma, Washington. At first he lives with a human family, and children will see themselves in the happy gorilla that sleeps in a bed, goes to baseball games, and licks ice-cream cones. But when Ivan grows too big, he is sold, and for 27 years, the adult silverback lives in a cage at a shopping mall. After protesting citizens write petitions, Ivan goes to a better environment at Zoo Atlanta. Back matter has more facts and photos of Ivan and websites for further information, as well as one of Ivan's finger paintings signed with his thumbprint. Using pencil-line drawing and washes of pastel, Karas feelingly depicts Ivan's gentle and loving personality conveying how this gentle gorilla won the hearts of thousands of people and readers. Preschool-Grade 3. --Lolly Gepson

My oldest daughter is 7.5, and she read the Ivan novel over the summer. She thoroughly enjoyed it, and so when I saw that an Ivan picture book would be coming out, I preordered it. I did not tell my daughter, so she was pleasantly surprised by the book's arrival a couple of days ago. This picture book is not narrated by Ivan, which is a shame, because Ivan had such a unique voice and a wry sense of humor. Rather, this is a biography about Ivan the gorilla, from his infancy in Africa amongst the other gorillas, his capture by poachers and subsequent arrival in America, his childhood as a "human", his internment at the shopping mall, and finally, his new life at the zoo in Atlanta. The prose is light and airy, but it also has emotional depth. It conveys information about Ivan's life in an engaging and evocative manner. One part that struck me was that Ivan had been "ordered and paid for, like a couple of pizzas, like a pair of shoes." The illustrations by G. Brian Karas are phenomenal. I have enjoyed his work in other books, and I love the way he has brought Ivan's world to life. My daughter had some objections to details in the picture book that differed from those found in the novel. I explained the concept of "artistic license" to her, and she seemed satisfied with that. I think this picture book is a fine companion to the Ivan novel. It makes Ivan's story accessible to children on a lower reading level than the level of novel. I would absolutely recommend this book to others.

We found this book because my son received the book The One and Only Ivan by Katherine

Applegate as a gift last year. He loved that book, so I got him this one for Christmas. Such a sad beginning with a happy ending. My son loves elephants best, and we originally got him The One and Only Ivan because of the elephant in the story - this story made him love gorillas too. Well-written with wonderful pictures. A very worthwhile addition to your library!

A remarkable book. Growing up in Washington state I know the story of Ivan well. I bought this to donate to my daughter's school library, I think it's a touching and important story for kids to read. My daughter is 6 and I didn't think the darker parts of the book were too much for her, although sad for anyone to read.

A beautiful story book for any child or adult touched by the life of Ivan. My younger son read the original book on Ivan and cried and loved it so much I had to get this for him and so glad I did. Beautiful book. Short read but loved the artwork, the real photos of Ivan and the personal story at the end. A must!!!

Fantastic story, beautiful illustrations. Highly recommend to all ages for the beautiful message the story beholds!

Nice book.

Bought this for my son as his class read the full book. He loved it, 5 stars.

I'm an elementary librarian. I started ordering the bulk of my books from a few years ago. This is a terrific true story about a gorilla kept in a cage outside a shopping mall in Washington state. You can find all kinds of information online to go with the book. There is also a chapter book for older students.

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