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The Mitten



Synopsis

The bestselling modern classic, in a sturdy board book edition perfect for little hands. When Nicki drops his white mitten in the snow, he goes on without realizing that it is missing. One by one, woodland animals find it and crawl in; first, a curious mole, then a rabbit, a badger and others, each one larger than the last. Finally, a big brown bear is followed in by a tiny brown mouse and what happens next makes for a wonderfully funny climax. As the story of the animals in the mitten unfolds, the reader can see Nicki in the borders of each page, walking through the woods unaware of what is going on. In her distinctive style, Jan Brett brings the animals to life with warmth and humor, and her illustrations are full of visual delights and details faithful to the Ukrainian tradition from which the story comes. "Grandmother knits snow-white mittens that Nicki takes on an adventure. Readers will enjoy the charm and humor in the portrayal of the animals as they make room for each newcomer in the mitten and sprawl in the snow after the big sneeze." -The Horn Book

Book Information

Age Range: 1 - 3 years

Lexile Measure: 800L (What's this?)

Board book: 32 pages

Publisher: G.P. Putnam's Sons Books for Young Readers (October 4, 1996)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.7 x 6.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 423 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #8,562 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #4 in Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Multicultural #200 in Books > Children's Books > Classics #618 in Books > Children's Books > Animals

Customer Reviews

A Ukrainian boy named Nicki wants his grandmother Baba to knit snow-white mittens for him. She warns her grandson that a white mitten will be hard to find if he loses it in the snow, but of course he promptly does just that! What happens next is the surprising part, as a mole takes refuge in the lost mitten, then a rabbit, then a hedgehog, an owl, a badger, and a fox. If you think the mitten might be a wee bit stretched out at this point, just wait: "Then a big bear sniffed at the mitten. The animals

were packed in tight, but the bear didn't care. He crawled in anyway." When a tiny mouse squeezes in, her whiskers tickle the bear's nose. He sneezes, and "Aaaaaa-aaaaa-ca-chew!" all the animals fly out of their crocheted cave. As the mitten sails through the air, Nicki spots it, reclaims it, and takes it home to show his smiling Baba. Jan Brett is the illustrator of many well-known folktales, fairy tales, and poems, such as Goldilocks and the Three Bears and The Owl and the Pussycat, by Edward Lear. Her special signature in her detailed artwork is the intricate borders, seen in this book as birch-bark panels with embroidered details and mitten-shaped vignettes offering additional insights into the story line. Brett is at her best when she illustrates animals, and the expressions on the faces of her creatures are a delight. She carefully researched the costumes, furniture, and house in this traditional Ukrainian tale--all are authentic. A fine story to read on a frosty night with a cup of hot chocolate, and if you ever get your fill of The Mitten, you can always try its delightfully original companion book, The Hat, winner of the 1998 Boston Globe-Horn Book Award. (Ages 4 to 8) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Baba, Nicki's grandmother, knits pure white mittens for him, even though she is afraid that he will lose them in the snow. Sure enough, the first time Nicki is out, he drops one and some animals promptly move into its snug wool interior. First comes a mole, then a rabbit, a hedgehog, an owl, a badger, a fox, a bear and, finally, a mouse. That mouse tickles the bear's nose and he sneezes, dislodging all of the animals at once. Nicki finds his mitten, and takes it home, but Baba is left to wonder about how it became so enormously stretched out. Brett's magnificent paintings feature her usual array of folk details, and this time, intricate knitting tracks, ornate embroidery, the crusty, peeling texture of the birch bark borders and the exquisite patterns found in Baba's homey rooms. Readers will sit back, suspend belief and welcome this tall tale from the Ukrainian tradition. Ages 4-8. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

A boy of about 7 or 8 wants warm winter mittens, in white. His grandmother advises as color so the mittens can be found if dropped. But Nikki wants and gets white. Off he goes into the deep snows around the small farmstead---and drops a mitten while climbing a tree. Not noticing, on he goes having a wonderful snowy day. So does a wee mole who crawls in the mitten. So does a rabbit snuggling right down. So do a forestful of animals, all enchantingly portrayed with expressions of increasing annoyance as a ox---a fox and then a great big bear climb into the sot warm mitten. But---a tiny mouse, a latecomer, climbs on bear's nose causing a big sneeze which propels

all the critters hither and yon, and tosses the mitten through the air just in time for Nikki who is searching to catch it. On the last page, Nikki is happily toasting his toes by the fire while Grandma holds up the mittens she has knitted puzzled indeed about why has stretched and stretched. The story abounds with delights for reader and listeners: the text is written with almost a poetic cadence with lovely sounding words; the illustrations are bright with color and joyously composed, the story tickles the imaginations and offers a grand platform for talking about animals who might or might not fitten into a mitten. For my family, this was a perfect Christmas-tide story even here on a tropical island .Any Reader Alerts? None at all. This is pure enchantment at a very affordable price. Very highly recommended.

This is a classic childrens' story that has been rewritten by Jan Brett with her own ability to draw animals in nature and appeal to children and adults alike with her illustrations and page borders that predict what will happen next.

Jan Brett books are not just wonderful stories, but the illustrations are glorious. She gives a prequel to the next page in the margins of the previous page which creates great discussion for predicting what is going to happen next when reading with young readers. You can't go wrong with this book!

Purchased this book for a 24 day countdown to Christmas. I wrap up 24 books and put them in a open box. Then Dec. 1st I let one of my grandchildren open a book then I read it to them. This way they learn to count, listen, take turns and wait. It is fun to do.

This book is beautiful. The illustrations are ethereal and adorable. The story is sweet and old fashioned in a good way. It might be a long read for young children, but I think it's worth it. It's not neutral colors and relaxing, I like that about books. It's not neon colors and flashy stories with no meaning, just to hold children's attention. It uses some old fashioned terminology and language, but that's a good thing because I don't feel it panders to younger readers. It's beautiful. Get the book!

This caught my attention as a Kindle edition, this time the "Kindle Cloud" that was available for non-kindle devices, my Mac computer. It is not the nicest of formats, as the pictures become rather tiny, surrounded by lots of white space. The text is printed too small for the average eyes, although an easy click brings a single block of print into a readable size, but at the same time obscures some of the illustration. Although I am a great fan of Jan Brett art work, this book is not the best version of

this familiar foreign tale. The text stretches the story with some lexical expansions that are awkward and beyond the understanding of the expected target reader. It is almost as if it was designed for a "language lesson" with a supplementary packet for in-class use, rather than good literature. Oh well. It is always interesting to keep up with technology, but I don't like to keep paying to do so. I hope this helps you avoid an unnecessary cost.

Great art again but not the crisp clear anticipation as The Hat---still a good story with possibilities for the kids to add their own "what happens next?"

Beautiful story for children. Grandmother Baba makes white mittens for Nicki but warns him that white mittens are easily lost in the snow. Sure enough Nicki loses one mitten. One by one the animals big and small find shelter and each other inside the mitten. Then the bear sneezes and the animals fly out of the mitten. The mitten sails up into the air and Nicki finds it. Lovely Ukrainian folktale adapted by Jan Brett. Very beautifully illustrated.

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