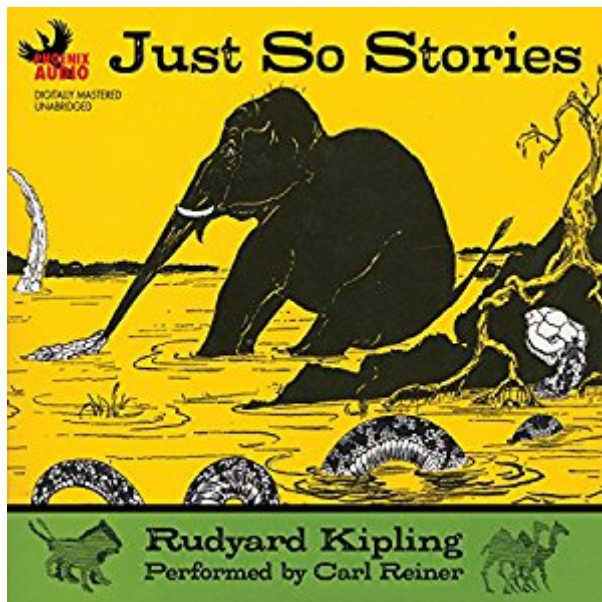


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Just So Stories



Synopsis

[Children's Fiction] [Read by Johanna Ward] Drawn from the enchanting tales told to Kipling as a child in India, *Just So Stories* reveals the magic of the dawn of the world, when animals could talk and think like people. Cats and dogs, kangaroos and tortoises, hedgehogs and jaguars, whales and leopards and many others are brought to life in an exotic Eastern landscape of "high and far times ago." Children will discover how the leopard got his spots, the elephant his trunk, and the camel his hump, through clever tales that subtly hint at the pitfalls of arrogance and the importance of creativity. Kipling composed these twelve stories and twelve poems to be read aloud, and their whimsical imagery and rhythmic language are sure to delight both children and adults for another hundred years. Table of Contents 1. "How the Whale Got His Throat" 2. "How the Camel Got His Hump" 3. "How the Rhinoceros Got His Skin" 4. "How the Leopard Got His Spots" 5. "The Elephant's Child" 6. "The Sing Song of Old Man Kangaroo" 7. "The Beginning of the Armadillos" 8. "How the First Letter Was Written" 9. "How the Alphabet Was Made" 10. "The Crab That Played with the Sea" 11. "The Cat That Walked by Himself" 12. "The Butterfly That Stamped" --This text refers to the MP3 CD edition.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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Customer Reviews

"Just So Stories" is a collection of 12 children's stories. The theme that runs through the dozen stories is that they are mostly tall-tale answers for questions that children might have. All but two of them focus on animals and nature, and the two divergent stories deal with the origin of written language. Since it's such a small

collection and the titles tend to synopsise the stories, I'll include the table of contents below, which may give one greater insight into the nature of the stories.1.) How the Whale Got his Throat2.) How the Camel Got his Hump3.) How the Rhinoceros Got his Skin4.) How the Leopard Got his Spots5.) The Elephant's Child6.) The Sing-Song of Old Man Kangaroo7.) The Beginning of the Armadillos8.) How the First Letter Was Made9.) How the Alphabet Was Made10.) The Crab that Played with the Sea11.) The Cat that Walked by Himself12.) The Butterfly that StampedThe edition that I have has a number of black-and-white graphics (block print and line drawn style) one or two per story. Given the genre, I imagine most editions have some kind of pictures, but your edition's graphics may vary. A number of the stories include short poetry usually at the end. The poetry is part of the original Kipling product and so are likely included in all unabridged editions. I'd recommend this book for those looking for short stories that are relatable to young children.

This is a beautiful copy of Just So Stories. As others have mentioned, it is a small volume but the cover is embossed and the pages are gilded. The paper is thin--not due to cheapness but rather it is fine paper. It contains the original illustrations and their captions, and it is just lovely. I ordered this copy because I was unable to find the copy my grandfather had given me as a child, which was a rather sizeable volume complete with colored illustrations on glossy paper. This copy is nothing like that volume, which held up well to the repeated use of a young child. This volume is meant for the caring, gentle hands of an older child or adult. If your child cannot use tissue paper without tearing it, this is not the volume for him or her. That said, if your child loves the stories, this would be a wonderful book to give him or her when she or he grows up.

Illustrations are black and white, very small and very few. Please click on the "look inside" before purchasing!

The Just So Stories are best when read aloud to a child. My son and I have fond memories of these stories which I read aloud to him over and over 50 years ago. There's a sing-song rhythm to many of the passages that ring delightfully in memory. How can one not love the round tones of lines enunciated slowly: "Son, son, said his mother, graciously waving her tail" or "Down by the great gray green Limpopo river all set about with fever trees" or .."the precession had proceeded according to precedent." Kipling called them the Just So Stories because when telling bedtime stories to his daughter, he had to repeat them "Just So," as children are wont to do. Delightful.

This is the correct , and original book , laid out in a modern cover. It is the only one worth buying, the rest are modernized with various rubbishy and non original nonsense. This is the only work of The Just So Stories that also has Kipling,s own watercolors on the jacket...which i have never seen before, and i had an early 1930,s example as a child. So , go for this book , it is special.

Kipling wrote for a more leisurely age. The stories make use of a wide vocabulary and literary devices such as repetition and alliteration. It is hard for a modern child to fully understand. But there is something going on at a deeper level. They love the rhythm of Kipling. The story lines are exquisitely crafted. They like to ask questions about the vocabulary. They are fascinated with the subjects of the stories. You can read the story as written, then retell it often in your own words. For instance, I told my son the story of the insatiably curious elephant child this week when he was pestering me with questions. Then pretended to pull his nose. Also at a deep level, Kipling teaches traditional values and shares deep wisdom. The females in his stories (First Woman in The cat who walked alone, the Tailor Bird's wife in Rikki Tiki Tavi) are fully drawn and quite intelligent. It is a classic.

The papercopy of this book has a beautiful front cover but the illustrations inside the book are terrible. It looks like they were printed on a very old printer as they are extremely pixelated. I can hardly make out what is going on in the pictures. This book is available in the public domain with illustrations so I really expected more when paying for it.

When I was a child, the highlight of my Sunday was listening to my aunt read the Just So Stories to my siblings and me. My personal favorites are "the Cat Who Walks By Himself" and "Elephant's Child". As an adult I have read these wonderful stories aloud to others using the same dramatization that I heard my aunt used. In my book collection, I have the complete works of Rudyard Kipling that I inherited from my grandmother So I have the actual volume that my aunt used to read to us. Now I also have the stories on my iPad and always have access to: "excuse me" said the Elephant's Child, "but have you seen a Crocodile in these promiscuous parts?" and "I am the Cat who walks by himself and all places are alike to me." As part of my courtship, my future husband listened to me read those and other stories so I knew he was a keeper. For any parent who reads aloud to his/her child, I highly recommend these stories as a source material. They will entertain you as well as your child.

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