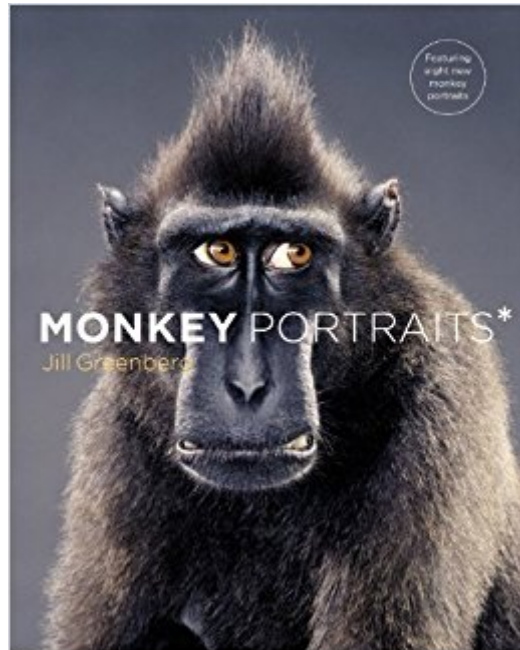


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Monkey Portraits



Synopsis

Jill Greenberg offers a fascinating, funny, and all-too-human collection of celebrity monkey and ape portraits. Each of these 76 amazing anthropomorphic photographs will remind readers of someone they know. Little, Brown and Company

Book Information

Paperback: 128 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 65 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #954,395 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #134 in [Books > Science &](#)

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Customer Reviews

Book Description: We share about 98 percent of our DNA with chimpanzees, our closest biological cousins. And never have the similarities between simians and humans been so amusingly and brilliantly captured as in *Monkey Portraits*. Jill Greenberg has spent 15 years photographing celebrities--from Clint Eastwood to Drew Barrymore--for leading publications, but has recently focused on actors of a different sort. She has been photographing monkeys and apes, many of whom have appeared on film or in television shows. Her intimate portraits of these animals convey a startling range of emotions and personalities, and evoke an almost eerie sense of recognition. Each of these 76 amazingly anthropomorphic photographs will remind you of someone you know. These monkeys in all their glory will cause you to laugh out loud and to wonder just how different we truly are. [Monkey Business](#) [Dax Pumpkin](#) [Mala](#) [Dax \[Exclusive Outtake\]](#) [Dax \[Exclusive Outtake\]](#) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title. [Read more](#)

Jill Greenberg regularly shoots advertising and celebrity portrait photography for such clients as Dreamworks, Sony Pictures, HBO, Bacardi, Rolling Stone, Time and Newsweek. She is a graduate

of the Rhode Island School of Design and began her career in New York City. Jill now lives in Los Angeles with her husband Robert and their children.

For one who loves books on monkeys and apes, this is never the rating I thought I would give it. However, perhaps I am spoiled by the portraits taken in many of Frans de Waal's books. If you just want a quick, somewhat entertaining book to look at, *Monkey Portraits* is not at all bad. But I had to give it only two stars. The collection of portraits does not evoke emotion; it feels shallow. It might be any one of these factors, or a combination: It uses false studio lighting rather than the true environment of the animal. It shows extremely close-up photos, almost entirely head shots leaving out the "body language" which is so much a part of what makes ape/monkey portraits complete. I mean, if you want to count the hairs on their chin, these portraits are clear and carefully posed. There is one of a little gibbon that shows his whole body - it is by far my favorite photo in the book. Compared to Frans de Waal's *"My Family Album"* (a far better choice for a gift or for yourself if you really love nature) this book was void and empty.

There is no doubt that Ms. Greenberg is a very fine photographer. The photographs in this book are technically perfect. Yet, when I looked through the book I was concerned about the captions that are often nonsense puns. I assume this was so that the book would have audience appeal but they take away from the photographs of the primates which are very interesting. There is a second concern which is that these animals are not in the wild but are trained primates used in television and movies and advertisements. Thus they are performing for the camera and for the most part may not be displaying expressions found in the wild under natural conditions. I am sure many people love the book without thinking about the existence of the animals in the photographs and without reflecting on why cute captions are employed to entertain. I suspect for many this book is highly entertaining and funny and for others it is a bit sad and exploitive.

Great book with adorable images. It makes a great conversation piece for the coffee table.

If the cover of this book intrigues you, get the book. It's just a whole lot of really interesting monkeys in high definition. I've seen a lot of monkey photos, but I've never seen anything like this. The photographer really has some talent and a lot of skill.

I shipped copies off to the g-kids, nieces & nephews after seeing it only briefly. The kids and parents

loved it! The 3-9 year olds ate it up. My gifting can sometimes miss the mark, but this was a very unexpected hit!

I purchased this tome strictly because of the unique cover. I didn't know if digital trickery was involved, or if it really was a portrait. It and the amazing and beautiful pages inside are real photos. The quality and skill exhibited by the photographer is stunning. I was looking at my ancestors and they showed anger, aloofness, joy, shyness and all the other facial variances that I see in humans. It is the type of book that you can look at over and over, yet find something fresh each visit. Highly recommended.

It is a gift for my grandson, to offer some humor as a break from studying (straight A student in 4th grade!)

I LOVE this book! I got several copies to give as gifts, and all my friends love it, too. Charming portraits that make you feel a bit uneasy.. who's the more intelligent here?..

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