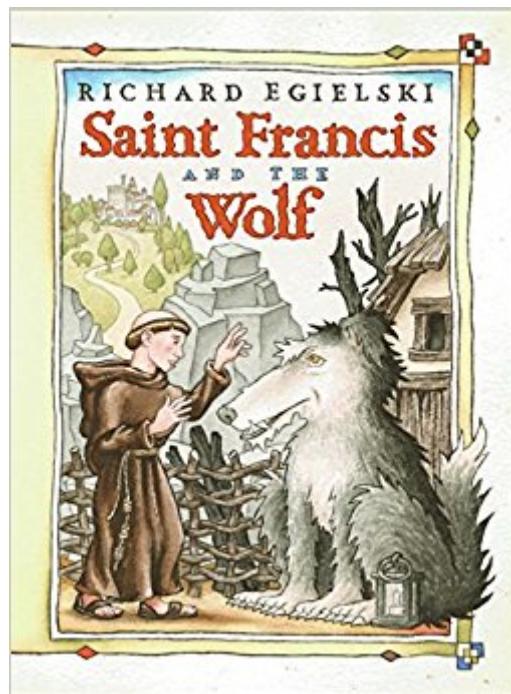


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Saint Francis And The Wolf



Synopsis

Terrible wolf is terrorizing the town of Gubbio, and no one can stop him! First the townspeople send a brave knight. He never returns. Then they send an army of trained warriors. They get destroyed. Finally the townspeople send a great and mighty war machine, but even that can't stop the wolf. The villagers don't know what to do -- until Saint Francis visits the town and speaks to the wolf in his own language. Caldecott Medal -- winning artist Richard Egielski exquisitely illustrates this classic tale of love, friendship, and the importance of living together in harmony.

Book Information

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins; 1st edition (September 27, 2005)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.2 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #733,720 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #29 in Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > European #413 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Foxes & Wolves #1072 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Biographies > Saints

Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

Customer Reviews

Long before Doctor Dolittle came along, Saint Francis of Assisi was known to have a special talent for soothing even the most savage beast. In this sharp and lively picture book, Egielski (The Tub People) recreates the oft-told tale of the friar's taming of a wicked wolf that terrorized the Italian town of Gubbio in the 13th century. Though no knight, army or "great war machine" can stop the violent creature, Saint Francis' gentle words urging the wolf to make peace do the trick. Crisp, frame-like borders surround Egielski's scenes, which brim with medieval accoutrements and light, humorous details (i.e., the wolf uses a jousting spear as a toothpick after noshing on a knight). The overall effect -- heightened by a typeface that resembles hand lettering -- will have readers imagining they are flipping through a scrapbook or ancient volume. This inviting and entertaining homage to the saint will be welcome on many a family bookshelf. All ages. (Oct.) Copyright ©

Grade 1-3
A simple retelling of a familiar legend. A wolf is terrorizing the Italian town of Gubbio. Knights, armies, and a threatening-looking war machine have all failed to put a stop to his terrible behavior. Only St. Francis, who can speak the wolf's language, is able to find a workable compromise for the creature and the town. The expressive cartoon art is done in Egielski's characteristic style and is full of child appeal. The warm bright colors of the townspeople's garb mixed with Francis's earth tones create a visually pleasing design; touches of humor (such as the wolf picking its teeth with a knight's spear) keep the tone light even when the story mentions frightening topics. Egielski summarizes St. Francis's life in a couple of paragraphs, concentrating primarily on his ability to communicate with animals and his message that every man, woman, and child should love all God's creatures that walk on the earth, fly in the sky, and swim in the sea. Because of this, the book is appropriate for children of all faiths. For more information about the saint, consult Brian Wildsmith's longer Saint Francis (Eerdmans, 1996).
Lucinda Snyder Whitehurst, St. Christopher's School, Richmond, VA Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

A good children's book that exemplifies St. Francis's commitment to spreading the Gospel to all, and the redemptive power of the Gospel. We gave this to our 3 yr old as a Christmas present, along with a stuffed wolf puppy (she is going through a "big bad wolf" phase), and it was a huge hit! Having said that, the book does not shy away from how bad the wolf is. The illustrations make it pretty clear that the wolf eats people-- there are skulls and bones and whatnot. Some sensitive children might find this frightening, and parents might find it a little too much for their kiddo. Also, there are two pages with naked angels that some might find objectionable (and I really didn't think were necessary).

Five stars awarded by a three year old and a seven year old. Great illustrations, wonderful story. The nephews wondered out loud if this was a real story and were fascinated that Saint Francis could calm such a wild creature. Adults will find the illustrations hilarious. For a religious book with a great message, it is also a very entertaining read with lots of action.

This is one of my children's favorite books. The illustrations are delightful, and the story is well-plotted and moves along at a good clip. Great book about a great saint.

There are so many St. Francis books out there. For actually "life" information, we prefer the one from "Life of a Saint" series. But, this one is the favorite for fun. The kids look forward to it every October.

When my granddaughter gets it for her Communion in June I will let you know her reaction.

a wonderful story for children and parents. terrific illustrations, effective language--we have read this repeatedly over several years. it has captivated my boys between ages of 4 and 9, and I still enjoy reading it.

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