



The Story of Babar: The Little Elephant

By Jean De Brunhoff

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The classic story of literature's most beloved elephant. After his mother is killed by a hunter, Babar avoids capture by escaping to the city, where he is befriended by the kindly Old Lady. Later, with cousins Celeste and Arthur, he returns to the great forest to be crowned King of the Elephants. With the original illustrations from Jean de Brunhoff's 1931 classic, this first Babar story has enchanted generations.

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The Story of Babar: The Little Elephant By Jean De Brunhoff Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #5820 in Books
- Brand: Random House Books for Young Readers
- Published on: 1961
- Released on: 1937-09-12
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 11.31" h x .42" w x 8.38" l, .89 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 56 pages

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

The Story of Babar--the early adventures of the enduring, endearing elephant--was written in 1931 by French writer Jean de Brunhoff (1899-1937). Since then, it has been translated into at least 12 languages. It's amazing how much can happen to one little elephant in the course of one little book: Babar loses his mother to a hunter, wanders into the city, gets a new wardrobe, becomes the hit of high society, marries his cousin Céleste (totally acceptable in contemporary Elephantine society), and is crowned King of the Elephants.

The Story of Babar is essentially the tale of a country boy who comes to the city and, while there, comes of age. In the end, he returns home to share his knowledge and experiences with family and friends. The beautiful, delightfully detailed illustrations--de Brunhoff was a painter by trade--never fail to amuse. (Although none of the characters seem to notice, the sight of Babar in a suit leaning against the mantel while he regales his audience with tales of the jungle is plainly hilarious.) All of the Babar books are notable for their ability to tell larger stories with simplicity and style, and *The Story of Babar* is no exception. Potentially troubling moments--the death of Babar's mother, for example--are handled with taste, emphasizing Babar's unique gift for uncovering a silver lining in the most persistent of clouds. (Ages 4 to 8, though the cursive writing makes it best for reading aloud.)

Review

"With many absurd and funny pictures, these tales of the popular elephant furnish hours of enjoyment to the young person."--*Elementary English*

Language Notes

Text: English (translation)

Original Language: French

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Steven Cruce:

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Gertrude Hoskins:

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