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The Indian In The Cupboard



Synopsis

A nine-year-old boy receives a plastic Indian, a cupboard, and a little key for his birthday and finds himself involved in adventure when the Indian comes to life in the cupboard and befriends him.

--This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"The Indian in the Cupboard" is an excellent movie for tween-aged children (i.e., children between their pre-school and teen years). In this movie a boy discovers that he can bring small action figures to life by using a small, old, wooden cupboard. The first figure he brings to life is a Native American. As the story progresses, the boy learns important lessons about life from his new friend, "Little Bear." The story is exciting without being frightening, educational without being stuffy, and fun without being extreme. "The Indian in the Cupboard" presents an excellent entertainment offering for pre-teens who often see too much programming centered on overstimulation of sight, sound, and action (e.g., Pokemon...). I also like the fact that the boy in the story doesn't look like he stepped right out of an advertising agency, or off of the cover of a magazine. He is a regular guy...his hair is a little messy, his teeth haven't gone through an orthodontic program, and he wears normal clothes. All in all, this is top-notch entertainment for the whole family. It's one of my children's favorites (girl, 10 yrs; boy 8 yrs; boy 6 yrs). A definite keeper for your family's collection! Happy viewing...and watch out for the rat! Alan Holyoak

I read the book *The Indian in the Cupboard* by Lynne Reid Banks. I liked how Omri changed during the book, because of the Indian. Omri learned more responsibility. The Indian, Little Bear also grew more responsible as Boone came along. Boone and Patrick also became more responsible. In the beginning Omri was not really paying much attention to the presents he got for his birthday. Because he just left them on the floor. Once Little Bear came to life he realized that it was real and had to take care of it. If Little Bear is responsible for anything Omri would take the blame so he wouldn't be discovered. Omri grew very close to Little Bear. And because of this the Indian grew more responsible. The main point is that Omri changed each day that the Indian was there. His changes were small but they were changes. I don't think anyone will ever change Omri back. I really liked this book and you will probably like it too. Chris a 6th grader

Lynn Reid Banks' debut presentation in what would become an excellent YA fantasy series remains as fresh and fascinating today as when it was published in 1980. Set in England the story revolves around some birthday gifts to Omri, the youngest of three boys: a plastic figure of an Indian from his best buddy, Patrick, and a scrounged medicine cabinet from one of his brothers. When his mother donates a special key which she has cherished since girlhood, the stage is set for a remarkable adventure--one in time and space, plus personal growth for all four main characters. Plastic miniatures of living things become alive when briefly locked inside the cupboard. Not just alive, but real people and animals from other time periods and cultures. How can a mere boy play god with adult lives? Omri--at first viewed as the all-powerful giant in control--has to juggle sibling problems, parental issues, school authorities and the spontaneous decisions of his best friend, in a desperate attempt to keep his precious secret. What will happen if real adults find out what he is hiding? Both boys quickly realize that they are no longer dealing with mere toys or entertaining pets, but with actual people with needs, personalities and demands--coupled with adult logic. The author creates increasingly difficult situations in the ensuing chapters--winding the spring of dramatic tension ever tighter--with the result that the book is all but impossible to put down. Omri learns a great deal about the Iroquois culture, but the boys' friendship is strained to the breaking point. Natural enemies like a cowboy and an Indian--from different eras in American history--must learn to peacefully coexist in times of mutual danger and for the boys' peace of mind. Can peace and trust be coerced or gradually taught? A delightful and thoroughly captivating read for kids of all ages! A new Classic!

My six year old son reads easily on a 3rd - 5th grade reading level. But we have trouble finding wonderful things for him to read because so many books written for that age group include a level of

intensity that's just not appropriate for a six year old. Now, don't get me wrong -- bits that my son thinks are "too scary" are usually just right for the age group for which the book was written. But it is wonderful to find great stories that aren't "too scary" that will still engage the imagination of my precocious reader. That's why we like *Indian in the Cupboard* so much. It's an imaginative, well-written story with interesting characters and a plot that's interesting but not "too scary." Best of all, it contains kids who aren't perfect, but still have their hearts in the right places -- and thankfully, the book isn't preachy about its morality.

This was one of my favorite books as a child. I was a little disappointed with the movie especially if it keeps people from taking the time to read the book. It is worth the read whether you are a kid or an adult. It is filled with rich imaginative imagery that was not captured by the movie. Furthermore, while the whole premise of a little Indian coming alive in a cupboard is enough to keep the story moving, this is but one of the many adventures that unfold in this great story. The second book in the series is just as good but then the series tapers off a little but the first two are definitely not to miss.

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