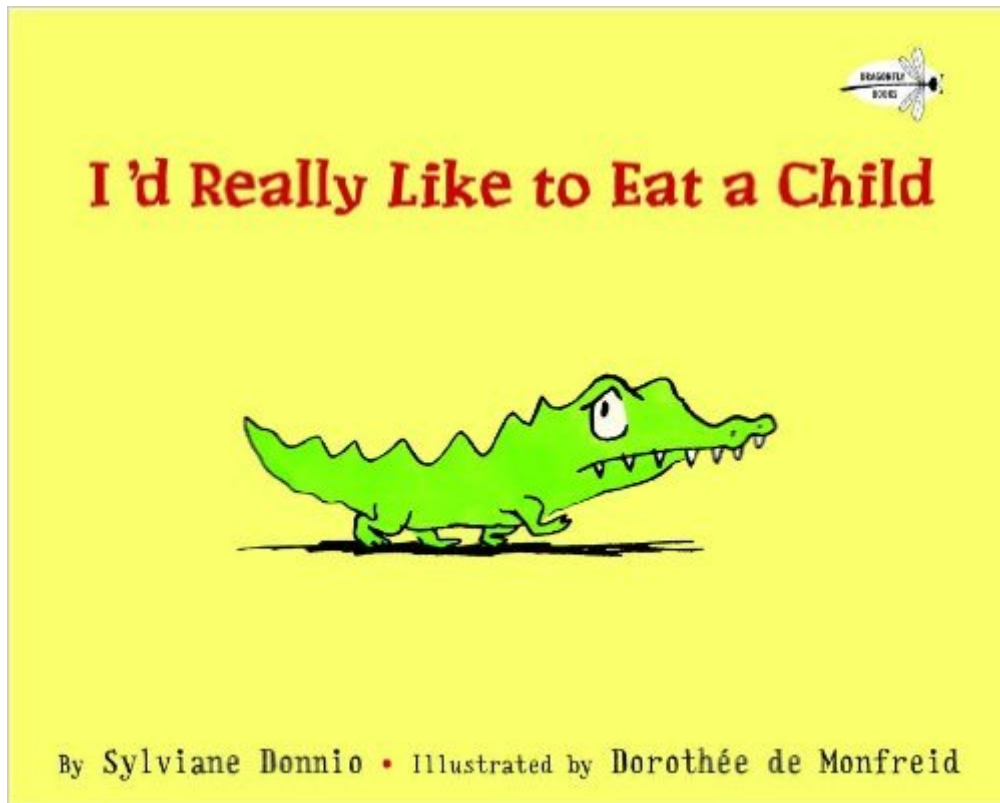


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I'd Really Like To Eat A Child



Synopsis

A scrawny little crocodile wants the opportunity to bite off more than he can chew. He's tired of bananas; today he'd like to eat a child. But he's smaller than he thinks, and the little girl he chooses for his first meal puts him in his place—she picks him up and tickles his tummy! The little crocodile is going to have to eat a lot of bananas and grow a lot bigger before he can add children to his menu! Simple yet hilarious artwork brings this droll story to life.

Book Information

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Dragonfly Books; Reprint edition (March 27, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0307930084

ISBN-13: 978-0307930088

Product Dimensions: 10 x 0.1 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars— See all reviews— (150 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #38,095 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #15 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Alligators & Crocodiles #37 in Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Basic Concepts > Size & Shape #41 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Reptiles & Amphibians

Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

Customer Reviews

There is something so refreshingly honest and upfront about Sylviane Donnio's "I'd Really Like to Eat a Child." Just the title alone tells you that this story is not another P.C. animal tale in which polar bears and babies snuggle together on a cold night. Nope, "I'd Really Like to Eat a Child" gives it to you straight. Achilles the crocodile lives on a banana diet enforced by his Mama (and, possibly, P.C. animal stories everywhere). One morning Mama is worried when Achilles won't eat his banana for breakfast. When Achilles announces--as well he should--that he wants a child to eat, Mama answers, "What an idea, my little Achilles!...Children don't grown on banana trees, only bananas do and that's what I have for breakfast." Dad tries to remedy the situation with a sausage brought back from the village. Achilles insists a child should be on the menu. Dad exclaims, "Come now, Achilles. There's no such thing as a sausage made from children!" (Okay, call me sick, but that's pretty funny. My kids thought it was a hoot too.) Many foodish attempts are made until Achilles encounters

a lovely little girl playing on a river bank. Achilles approaches slowly...until...the girl cries, "Oh! Look at that...A teeny-tiny crocodile! He's awfully cute!" Poor Achilles. His hopes dashed, he runs home so he can eat as many bananas as possible. I'll let you guess why. Sylviane Donnio's concept is great here--this book has the dark humor any three- to eight-year-old will appreciate. Dorothea de Monfreid's cartoon-like illustrations are a perfect match as well. How she makes a teeny tiny crocodile's expressions exactly mirror those of a recalcitrant toddler I'll never know. "I'd Really Like to Eat a Child" is highly recommended fun for adults and children who like a touch of the macabre with their humor. Don't worry--no children were harmed in the making of this book.

I'm a librarian and saw this book at a publisher's book fair. The title grabbed me instantly as hilarious. I have a three year old nephew so ordered the book for his birthday. When it arrived I sat right down and read it. The story is just as cute as the title; about little Achilles the crocodile who had a steady diet of bananas from his Mom but really wants to eat a child. After pursuing this ambition and meeting a possible child to consume Achilles realizes his mistake and happily goes back to Mom and his regular diet. It's a simple yarn for a child up to about the age of six. The pictures are delightful; colorful and well drawn. I think I'll order it for myself. My nephew has certainly enjoyed his copy.

I collect unusual, strange and inappropriate children's books. From my perspective this book is okay. It is charming, with no real objectionable content. Unlike many of the other books in my collection, I would actually read this to a child. If you're expecting more of a gag gift or want a children's book with more of a point or moral to it, give this one a pass. Otherwise it's a fine, harmless little thing that has a funny cover that will draw a giggle.

"I'd Really Like to Eat a Child" is a fantastic book about Achilles (a little crocodile) who refuses to eat anything because he wants to eat a child. His Mama and Papa try getting some new foods for him but he refuses to eat those, too. He is being totally stubborn. Then he finds a little girl and wants to eat her. Achilles tries to roar but the girl just thinks he's cute. He goes home and eats bananas. But he does NOT give up on his silly idea to eat a child. I think kids would enjoy this book because it's funny. Even the pictures are funny. I loved the part where the little girl tickled Achilles and then threw him in the river. That was hilarious. I give this book 5 stars because it is humorous and made me laugh. I keep reading it over and over again. I would give it 10 stars if I could. Review by Connor C., age 6, Boston Mensa

A cute, hilarious, innocent book about a little crocodile named Achilles who decides he wants to hunt down little children, even though his parents keep telling him to eat bananas for breakfast if he wants to grow big and strong. Achilles is a very loveable character, and the punchline to the story is lots of fun. If you enjoyed this one, you might also want to check out Mo Willems' "Leonardo The Terrible Monster," which has a similar plot and an equally adorable hero. (ReadThatAgain!)

Achilles may be just a small crocodile, but what he lacks in size, he makes up for in stubbornness. Every morning for breakfast, his mama brings him tasty bananas plucked fresh from the trees. But on this morning, Achilles refuses to eat. He has already made up his mind that today, he would really like to eat a child. His mama would happily indulge her little gator, but children don't grow on trees. Bananas do, and that's what for breakfast. Papa Crocodile runs to the village and come back with a plump sausage strapped to his back that is as long as his body, but Achilles won't budge. He wants to eat a child. Mama and Papa put their heads together and bake the most luscious chocolate cake. Apparently these are very adept crocodiles, because they also manage to frost and decorate that cake, as well as produce a sharp knife for slicing. Achilles is sorely tempted, but remains firm in his convictions. Achilles stomps down to the river to do some pouting, but is surprised when he arrives. Sitting at the edge of the riverbank is a defenseless child! The little croc creeps up and bares his teeth in a most ferocious way. The child turns, picks him up by the tail, tickles his belly in a most insulting way and chucks him into the river. Instead of dwelling on the failure, Achilles hops out, runs to his parents and announces he needs to eat piles of bananas, so he can grow big enough to eat a child. This was just released in paperback, and typically only the good ones makes it to paperback. I love how Achilles parents try to distract him from the child meal with the other foods. Who would have thought that a couple of crocodiles could produce a fancy cake? Achilles definitely inherited their can-do attitude, refusing to give up his dream of eating a child.

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