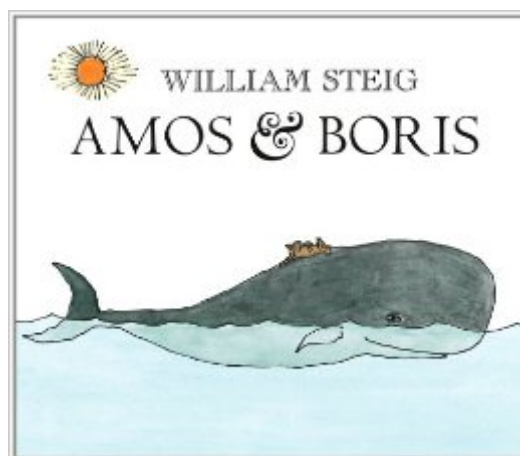


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# Amos & Boris



## Synopsis

Amos the mouse and Boris the whale: a devoted pair of friends with nothing at all in common, except good hearts and a willingness to help their fellow mammal. They meet after Amos sets out to sail the sea and finds himself in extreme need of rescue. And there will come a day, long after Boris has gone back to a life at sea and Amos has gone back to life on dry land, when the tiny mouse must find a way to rescue the great whale. Amos & Boris is a 1971 New York Times Book Review Best Illustrated Book of the Year, Notable Children's Book of the Year, and Outstanding Book of the Year.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD810L (What's this?)

Paperback: 28 pages

Publisher: HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT; 1 edition (December 31, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 031253566X

ISBN-13: 978-0312535667

Product Dimensions: 8.4 x 0.2 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (78 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #16,175 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #50 in Â Books > Children's Books > Animals > Marine Life #77 in Â Books > Children's Books > Animals > Mice, Hamsters, Guinea Pigs & Squirrels #360 in Â Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 03

## Customer Reviews

As far as I am concerned, William Steig should be given a Pulitzer Prize for his body of children's literature. I don't think any one author/illustrator has such a catalog of playful, meaningful, generous, witty, profound and literate books for young people. Amos and Boris is a distillation of all the great themes of life: friendship, courage, spiritual ecstasy, the question of an afterlife ("Would his soul go to heaven? Would there be any mice there?"), altruism and love. As weighty as these issues are, they are simply part of the fabric of the wonderful story; there is nothing ponderous or cobbled on, no subtext. Steig's genius lies in his ability to create stories that appeal equally to small children, and to their parents and grandparents -- they ring that true on all levels. The characters in this little book

have become a part of my heart, as has William Steig. Don't miss it.

I love William Steig's work, and this is one of his best picture books. Steig always fills his books with love and family and friendship and with a love of life. Rarely in any type of literature will you find a book about friendship better than this one. The story of "Amos and Boris" is about a mouse and a whale. When the mouse has an accident in his sailing ship, he is saved by the whale. The two strike up an immediate and deep friendship which will continue though the two are forced to be worlds apart. "Amos and Boris" is a remarkable book for the meaningful lessons it teaches. It is also remarkable for the beautiful prose, the humor, and for the marvelous pictures by Steig. "Amos and Boris" is truly a perfect picture book for children and for adults.

Most folks are familiar with William Steig for having written Shrek. But there is soooo much more. "Dominic" and "Amos and Boris" were two of the most memorable books from my childhood. I received them as gifts from my parents and read and re-read them countless times. I had long since lost my copies from childhood but ordered new when I read that the author had passed away. I approached reading them with great trepidation as I feared that they would not live up to my memory of them. I should not have worried! I decided to read "Amos & Boris" first as "Dominic" was my absolute favorite. I figured if I did not feel the same magic, I would avoid re-reading "Dominic" so as not to diminish my recollection. So one afternoon, after arriving home from work, I sat down with "Amos & Boris" and began to read it out loud. By the time I was 3 pages from the end of the book, I was weeping. These books are special beyond words and I hope that William Steig understood how much beauty he brought into the world writing them.

I love this book, and feel that William Steig is one of the most underrated and insightful children's authors. I have asked many people who have children that I know whether they have read any of his books, and the usual answer I receive is "no". What literature they have been missing out on! My son really enjoys this book, and it is one of the first books with a substantial amount of text on each page that I have been able to convince him to sit still to hear (he's almost three). The story of a mouse and whale who find solace in a most unlikely friendship is charming and very applicable to human relationships. I think this book can teach children that friendship can be found in a people who are not necessarily like ourselves...and that these friendships are often some of the most important and profound in our lives. Hopefully, children will take away from this book the message that not everyone is the same, and that so much can be valued and gained from finding friends in

those who are different from all the rest.

This book is so charming and original and to top it off it is so poignant it almost brought tears to my eyes. The language is lyrical and the story is whimsical yet it explores issues such as lifelong friendship and our interconnectness. The mouse, Amos, heads off to sea and is so overwhelmed by its beauty and the feeling of oneness with creation that he rolls right off his boat and has to be saved by a friendly whale, Boris. Amos hopes he can repay his friend someday although it is hard to imagine how a little mouse could help a big powerful whale. Sure enough Amos will get his moment! This book is great for a range of ages and will delight both parents and children.

The story and illustrations of this children's book are absolutely lovely. But parents of young children be aware, the words are many on each page and they are big and advanced (on one page alone: "leisurely," "exchanging," "developed," "admiration," "delicacy," "quivering daintiness," "gemlike radiance," "grandeur," and "abounding friendliness" - phew!) and concepts - like death. I love exposing my child to these big words but it can get tiring when at every other word they stop to ask what it means - I wonder how much of the story he truly understands. I also found myself choked up at the end (spoiler alert) when the two friends, after a near death situation, part to never see each other again. My little kid had many, many big questions about death and dying and being helpless - not an ideal conversation right before bed. This book covers some big life stuff...but it is a beautiful book with a lasting story that goes deep.

This book is for our grandson, and one of many by William Steig that we've bought. There is no more engaging story than this one, and I've read it countless times to hundreds of children over the years at the library. The drama is there, the beautiful language is there, and the picture of true friendship was never painted in a more touching way.

"Amos and Boris" is one of our family's favorites, bar none. The kids (ages 9 and 7) have hundreds of books, but none touches us the way this story does. All of Steig's work is exceptional, and this story is his crowning glory. A MUST READ!! I took it into the third grade classroom as a guest reader. At the end of the story, I asked the kids to raise their hands if they liked it. 27 hands shot up!

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Boris Gets a Lizard: A Branches Book (Boris #2) Amos & Boris Boris Vallejo and Julie Bell:

Dreamland No Compromises! The Art of Boris Lurie Boris Mikhailov: Diary Boris Vallejo & Julie

Bell's Fantasy Wall Calendar 2017 Boris Vallejo & Julie Bell's Fantasy Wall Calendar 2016 Boris Vallejo & Julie Bell's Fantasy 2015 Calendar Boris Vallejo & Julie Bell's Fantasy 2014 Calendar Morris and Boris at the Circus (I Can Read Level 1) Dreams: The Art of Boris Vallejo Amos Fortune, Free Man A Sick Day for Amos McGee A Sick Day for Amos McGee: Book & CD Storytime Set Amos Fortune, Free Man (Newbery Library, Puffin) Ben and Me: An Astonishing Life of Benjamin Franklin by His Good Mouse Amos Tori Amos Collectibles The Alden Amos Big Book of Handspinning: Being A Compendium of Information, Advice, and Opinions On the Noble Art & Craft Tori Amos: Lyrics Tori Amos: To Venus & Back

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