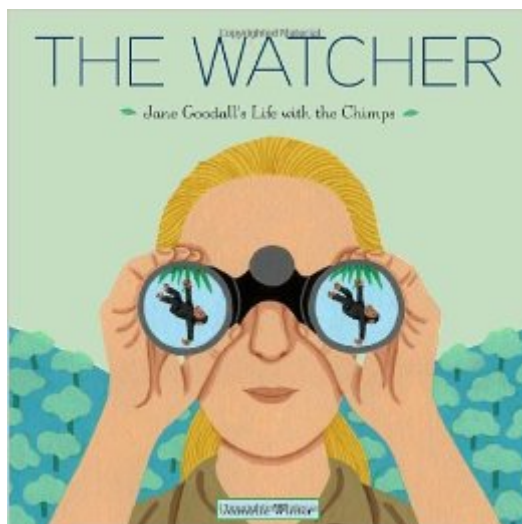


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# The Watcher: Jane Goodall's Life With The Chimps



## Synopsis

Acclaimed picture book biographer Jeanette Winter has found her perfect subject: Jane Goodall, the great observer of chimpanzees. Follow Jane from her childhood in London watching a robin on her windowsill, to her years in the African forests of Gombe, Tanzania, invited by brilliant scientist Louis Leakey to observe chimps, to her worldwide crusade to save these primates who are now in danger of extinction, and their habitat. Young animal lovers and Winter's many fans will welcome this fascinating and moving portrait of an extraordinary person and the animals to whom she has dedicated her life. *The Watcher* was named a Best Book of the Year by the Boston Globe, Kirkus Reviews, Booklist, and the Bank Street College of Education.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD820L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 48 pages

Publisher: Schwartz & Wade (April 5, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0375867740

ISBN-13: 978-0375867743

Product Dimensions: 8.8 x 0.5 x 8.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (49 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #46,449 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #44 in Â Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Science & Technology #80 in Â Books > Children's Books > Animals > Apes & Monkeys

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

As an anthropologist, I got both "The Watcher" and "Me, Jane" for my 2-year-old daughter. "The Watcher" is quite a bit better - with more words and better vocabulary, the story introduces children to the basic concepts in primatology and anthropology. Winters' illustrations can be used to get children involved in watching too: Jane doesn't immediately see the chimps, who are hiding in the trees, and it's fun to ask my daughter to point them out and count them. One of the things I dislike about "Me, Jane" is that it jumps from little Jane dreaming about chimps to Goodall in the field, skipping the trouble, hardships, and work she had to put in to get from interested kid to adult

researcher. "The Watcher" tells a surprisingly thorough (for a kids' book) story of Jane Goodall's life in a way that challenges younger readers but at the same time doesn't talk down to them.

Starting with the cover, Jeanette Winter's latest book is the product of a great illustrator at the top of her game. Her non-western style is a perfect match for this story set in Africa -- the shapes and colors perfectly evoke the jungle, with a feel that is both exquisitely primal and vibrant. And, starting with the title, the story very simply and matter-of-factly focuses a child's attention on what it means to be a "watcher," an observer. It's so important, in a picture book biography, that there be some over-arching metaphor which holds the story together -- as opposed to, "and then she did this, and then she did that." If you you're looking for a book which gets right to the heart of what makes Jane Goodall important, without trivializing it or talking down to its child readership, this one's for you. Brilliant work, Jeanette Winter!

This is my 7-year-old's review: I love this book because it tells you how important and endangered some animals are. Also because now I know that someone else loves animals and wants to protect them as much as I do. It was interesting how Jane Goodall got a job and saved her own money so she could take a boat to Africa to study the chimps.

This is an outstanding picture book biography about one of the world's most beautiful women. Who does not adore Jane Goodall and her tireless efforts to understand and bring to the rest of the world the hidden culture of chimpanzees? It's a wonderful character story to read to a child, and the bright and comely yet unobtrusive pictures will stir the reader's imagination. This book begs to be read again and again, not only for the lovely story, but to retake an occasion to reap and admire small treasures missed in the pictures the first time around. The author says, "I wish that when I was a little girl, I could have read about someone like Jane Goodall.... I've made this book for that little girl. Thank you Jeanette Winter. Suitable for classroom, library or personal ownership.

I used this book with second through fifth graders to discuss how Jane Goodall encompasses the "global learning" focus of our school. My students loved the story and illustrations, and loved learning about how chimps are so similar to humans. My older students were able to have amazing discussions about how Jane investigated the world around her, how she effectively communicated her ideas to the public, and how she worked to preserve Gombe. The writing itself is simple enough that my younger students could easily follow along, but the topics were complex enough to engage

my older students. Wonderful book!

Good, not great but good. Strong female protagonist and based on a real life person to boot. Good old Jane Goodall. What's not to love? Read it to my 2yr old & 5 year old. We enjoy and my oldest was very concerned about forest clearing and chimp habitats on our last reading. That was kind of cool. Art is fine. Get it for your kids!

I bought this as part of themed gift for my niece with Children's Hard Plastic Safari Pith Helmet and Educational Insights Geosafari Jr. Kidnoculars. Big hit! I also looked at the popular \_Me . . . Jane\_ book but found this to be a better choice for actually highlighting Goodall's interest in the research process.

What a great book for adults as well as children to learn about Jane Goodall and her work. What a wonderful woman who lived her dream. Role model for girls and for anyone concerned about animals and our earth.

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