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Travels With Gannon And Wyatt: Botswana



Synopsis

Winner of the 2013 National Outdoor Book Awards When Gannon and Wyatt arrive in Botswana for an African safari, they find themselves tangled up in much more than a family vacation. After receiving word that a poacher has shot and wounded a lioness, they set off into the wild in the hopes of saving the mother and her cubs before the poacher finishes the job. While on this amazing journey, they encounter Africa's Big Five--elephants, rhinos, cape buffaloes, leopards, and lions--only to discover that the most dangerous predator in the African bush is not the king of beasts, but man himself. In the tradition of the historic journals kept by explorers such as Lewis and Clark, Dr. David Livingstone, and Captain James Cook comes the adventure series Travels with Gannon and Wyatt. From Africa to the South Pacific, these twin brothers have traveled the world. You never know what they will encounter as they venture into the wild, but one thing is certain--wherever Gannon and Wyatt go, adventure is their constant companion. You can find Gannon and Wyatt's blog, photographs, and video footage from their real-life expeditions at travelswithgannonandwyatt.com.

Book Information

Series: Travels with Gannon and Wyatt (Book 1)

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (76 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,625,106 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #65 inÂ Books > Travel > Africa > Botswana #4176 inÂ Books > Travel > Reference > General #4264 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Siblings

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 6

Customer Reviews

It was written with wonderful humor and insight into children's minds and behavior. It was inspirational, exemplifying solid values for inner growth, curiosity for inner learning and outer

exploration. It encouraged caring within the family and community. There was a heartfelt emphasis to explore, honor and preserve Nature. I can easily envision children wanting to emulate Gannon and Wyatt as they read this book and feel inspired! I strongly recommend this book. (ages approximately 9 - 12) C. Elkins, Boulder, Colo.

Just read *Travels With Gannon and Wyatt*. In this adventure the twin boys find themselves in Botswana (Africa). The book is written as a journal kept by the young adventurers and goes back and forth between the two. The most interesting part for my two youngsters, as we read together, was that the twins have very different perceptions of each situation. At first we read a few passages at night before bed but as the action heated up we were reading whenever we got the chance. I would definitely recommend this book to any young reader. Looking forward to the next adventure!

I will have to agree with one of the reviews from a previous post that I didn't really see a difference between the two brothers in their journal writing. They both felt the same as I was hoping for more personality distinctions. One of the brothers is more artistic as he wants to be a film maker as the other is more interested in the technical or scientific side. There were slight mentioning of their interests but it kept throwing me off as one brother kept referring to the other as "kid". Not a very brotherly term in my opinion. However, the story was mildly entertaining but also slightly unbelievable. Not to give too much of the story away but as they, the brothers, are loosely based on real life people, I found it hard to swallow that they would have faced a poacher that had drawn a gun on them. The drama was a little forced like they HAD to have something life-threatening happen to them. I thought the illness of one of the brothers from their brief traveling a lot more believable than two young boys having to face down a criminal. All in all, I did enjoy the read but hope that the next books in the series develop the characterizations of the brothers a lot more through their choice of words and how each perceive their surroundings.

I saw them mentioned on a blog I follow and decided to try a couple. I'm so glad I took a chance on them! The dad is an artist, the mom is a flight attendant, and the family travels to all sorts of interesting places having dangerous and exciting adventures. We're actually in the middle of Great Bear Rainforest right now. I'm planning to keep an eye out for more of these great books!

I guess you could call this top flight reality-adventure-fiction. The book is set up as alternating travel journal entries authored by twin brothers Gannon and Wyatt. Gannon is a friendly loosey-goosey

kind of guy and Wyatt is a more buttoned-down and serious sort. This is one of several books in the Gannon & Wyatt series and features a safari in Botswana. Here's the really good part. While the book is fictional, it isn't a novel, in the sense that the Hardy Boys books or Tom Swift books, or similar adventures are primarily novels. These are fictional travel journals. Lots of exciting things happen, but they are recounted in the same diary form that you would expect from any actual explorer/adventurer. This is a great approach - if the author plays fair and if it works. Well, the Gannon & Wyatt books work. The two brothers have distinct voices and engaging personalities. The writing is a bit advanced to be from teenage journalists, but the author carefully balances creating authentic voices with writing at a high quality level. The result is that the boys feel authentic, but the writing is professional. The author also plays it straight. There is a search for white rhinos, an expedition to find an injured lioness, and a run in with a poacher. A lot of information is worked in to the narrative, the travelogue parts are correct, the geography and scenes are right, and so you get a real you-are-there kind of feel. At the same time, there is a lot more action and adventure than is probably typical, and so you get a concentrated and dramatized version. To mix up generational references, it's a Lowell Thomas/Marlin Perkins/David Attenborough kind of vibe. Old style black and white photos that look like travel snapshots help maintain the reality atmosphere. So, you get two engaging heroes, a series of ripping yarns, travel and geography facts, and a very gung-ho adventure vibe all wrapped up in an appealing package. A nice find and a nice change of pace read for an imaginative middle grade or young YA reader. Please note that I received a free advance copy of this book in exchange for a candid review. Apart from that I have no connection at all to either the author or the publisher of this book.

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