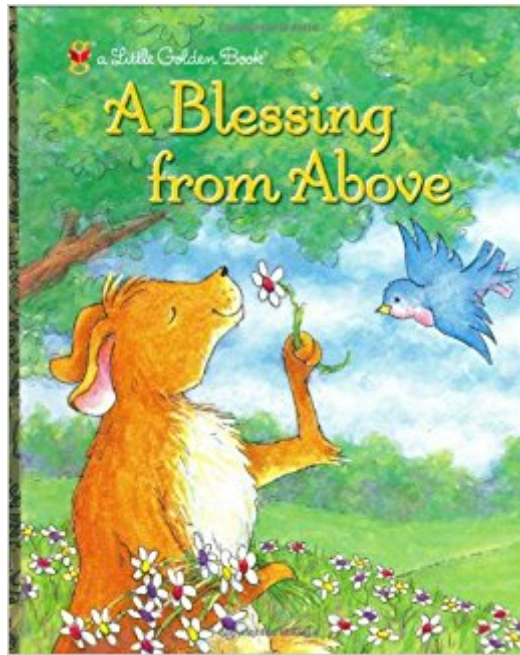




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A Blessing From Above (Little Golden Book)



Synopsis

Every night before she goes to sleep, a kangaroo prays under the stars for a baby to love and hold. One day, as she rests under a tree, a baby bird falls out of its crowded nest—plop!—right into her pouch! Now, every night before they fall asleep, Momma-Roo and Little One thank God for all their blessings . . . but especially for each other. The book closes with a quote from Ephesians 1:5: “In love he destined us for adoption to himself. . . .”

Book Information

Series: Little Golden Book

Hardcover: 24 pages

Publisher: Golden Books; Random House ed. edition (May 11, 2004)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 6.6 x 0.2 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 120 customer reviews

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Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

Customer Reviews

"Once upon a time there lived a mother kangaroo who had an empty pouch," begins this earnest tale of adoption, the first by the author (the mother of two adopted sons) and the artist (an adoptee). As Momma-Roo sits under a tree, imagining what it would be like to show her own little one the sights and sounds of the forest, a baby bluebird tumbles out of a crowded nest and falls into her pouch. The mother bluebird "knew her nest was not big enough for all her chicks," and is glad to let an elated Momma-Roo have the tiniest nestling. Momma-Roo and Little One frolic in the forest, and every night they "thank God for all their blessings... especially for each other." Very young children will probably be satisfied with the simply resolved plot and the delicate prettiness of the watercolor

illustrations, but adoptive parents may wonder if a trans-species adoption is the most appropriate analogy, and adopted children may wish that the perspectives here were not only those of the two mothers. While a general sense of faith suffuses the book, the story concludes with a quote from Ephesians ("In love he destined us for adoption to himself through Jesus Christ"), limiting the audience to Christians. Ages 3-7. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Kindergarten-Grade 2-This sentimental picture book, which begins and ends with New Testament Scripture, is about a mother kangaroo that prays for a baby. Seeing other animals with their young only intensifies her longing. When a baby bird falls out of an overcrowded nest and lands in the kangaroo's pouch, she hugs her "blessing from above" and decides to raise it as her own. There are several problems with this adoption story. Apart from the questionable circumstance of the mother bird being delighted to have a chick for which she has no room adopted, or calling a childless kangaroo "Momma-Roo," Henderson's story has the wrong focus for the intended audience. It is not on the youngster being adopted, but on the mother and her desires. Edge's watercolor and pen-and-ink cartoon illustrations depict a tranquil countryside complete with blooming flowers, ducks on a lake, and a large willow tree-hardly the environment in which to find a kangaroo. Jamie Lee Curtis's *Tell Me Again about the Night I Was Born* (HarperCollins, 1996) is a far more suitable, child-centered choice. Marianne Saccardi, Norwalk Community-Technical College, CT Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Okay, *contains spoilers* :-) Firstly, story was on time, perfect shape book. This is a cute story overall, but can't see sharing it with my girls via adoption bc of one page- bummer, but can't work around it! The baby bird falls accidentally from the overcrowded nest, and the mama bird leaves the one fallen birdie with mama kangaroo bc her nest is too full. The other babies stay with the mama bird. I know this actually can be reflective of some adoption stories, but not for us (so adds more complexity/ worry than necessary at a very early age). I think we can find better ways to talk about why. Somehow the writing right there missed the mark on emphasizing the baby's worth, and came off as a mom might leave one baby if she has "extras"..... I totally get that it's hard to hit the just-right treatment of this moment in a kid's story.....just not for us.

While some critics tear this story down by saying the focus is wrong or that it has a limited audience,

I disagree. This is a sweet story of the longing for a child by a momma to be. An adopted child can see how much he or she was longed for...how very precious they are. That's a winner for any child! The author has done a wonderful job and you will be blessed by the story and illustrations! Thank you Patti and Liz!! Susan Hart PS I found out about your book by way of a young woman sharing it from the pulpit on Mother's Day and had to get it. I was not disappointed! Thanks for sharing from your heart.

Love the story. Especially love that it ends with one little Bible verse at the end. No religious comments in the rest of the book however. A (possibly single - no other kangaroo is mentioned) female Roo with an "empty pouch" adopts a baby when momma bird just can't keep little bird in her nest (she fell out because it was so crowded). Birth momma bird is happy that her little bird has a warm cozy home now (although it doesn't show the birdy in the pouch). It ends with baby bird and her momma Roo giving thanks for each other.

Great story about adoption! I purchased for someone who had an adopted child, they enjoyed it. It arrived on time and no damage.

I love this book! It brought me tears since my husband and I just adopted a baby boy.

One of my favorite books on adoption! My kids came from foster adoption, and I love that this book addresses the fact that there are some mommies who are unable to care for their young so a new mommy steps in to help. The verse at the end of the book makes me tear up every time I read it. Highly recommend as an adoption day gift!

I bought this as a shower gift for a friend who was adopting a little boy. I didn't read the book, so I can't say anything about the story, but the pages stuck out farther than the cover on the right side of the book. I sent it back for a replacement and the replacement was the same way. I don't know if they're all like this, but it made the book look very cheaply made. I'm sure I could have taken a large paper cutter and fixed it, but I didn't have one or the time to find one before the shower.

As an adoptive parent we sometimes struggle with ways to introduce our children to adoption but this book has helped make it easier and relatable for a 3 yr. old. Being adopted at 3 months she has no clue about her adoption but this book 'A Blessing from Above' helps put it into perspective in a way

that I could not explain because she's still young. However this book helps her understand in her lil mind that every mother who loves children longs to have a child.

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