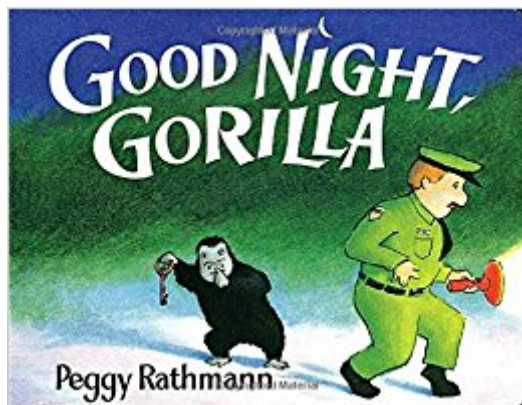


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# Good Night, Gorilla



## Synopsis

A must-have board book for all babies. Good night, Gorilla. Good night, Elephant. It's bedtime at the zoo, and all the animals are going to sleep. Or are they? Who's that short, furry guy with the key in his hand and the mischievous grin? Good night, Giraffe. Good night, Hyena. Sneak along behind the zookeeper's back, and see who gets the last laugh in this riotous good-night romp.

## Book Information

Age Range: 1 - 3 years

Board book: 32 pages

Publisher: G.P. Putnam's Sons Books for Young Readers; Brdbk edition (February 21, 1996)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0399230033

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Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.9 x 6.5 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 897 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,106 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Apes & Monkeys #3 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Zoos #7 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Sleep

## Customer Reviews

"Good night, Gorilla," says the weary watchman as he walks by the gorilla cage on his nightly rounds at the zoo. The gorilla answers by quietly pickpocketing the guard's keys, stealthily trailing him, and unlocking the cages of every animal the oblivious fellow bids goodnight to. Looking much like an exhausted father, the uniformed guard traipses home toward his cottage, while the lonely zoo animals softly parade behind him. The animals manage to slip into his bedroom and nestle unnoticed near his sleepy wife--until the bold little gorilla goes so far as to snuggle up beside her as she turns out the light. Author and illustrator Peggy Rathmann (creator of the Caldecott-winning *Officer Buckle and Gloria*) relies more on the nuances of her jewel-toned pictures than on words to pace this giggly bedtime story, making it perfect for observant preschoolers. In one inky-black spread, Rathmann lets only the shocked, wide-open eyes of the guard's wife tell us that the gorilla has been detected! Tiny details such as the faithful, banana-toting mouse and sky-bound pink balloon that appear in each picture keep this book fresh, magical, and fun--even after countless bedtime readings. (Baby to preschool) --Gail Hudson --This text refers to an out of print or

unavailable edition of this title.

Universally understandable subject matter and a narrative conveyed almost entirely through pictures mark this as an ideal title for beginners. A zookeeper makes his nightly rounds, bidding good night to a gorilla, a lion, a giraffe and so on. He doesn't know that the gorilla has procured his keys and is unlocking each animal's cage; a jungly crowd files quietly behind the keeper as he walks home and crawls into bed. When his wife says, "Good night, dear," seven voices reply, "Good night," and it's up to the missus to return the mischievous menagerie. Although Rathmann's illustrations lack the artistic ingenuity she displayed in *Ruby the Copycat* and *Bootsie Barker Bites*, the author/artist connects with her audience on several levels. Children can identify with the animals, who have toys in their cages (the elephant has a plush Babar) and resist being left alone in their "rooms" all night; they will also enjoy some minor subplots. Some details prove questionable (for example, one overdrawn visage of Mrs. Zookeeper seems blurry, particularly because she's rendered with a few simple lines elsewhere), yet these considerations take a back seat to Rathmann's comic exuberance. Ages 3-6. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This one isn't my husband's favorite, because he says it's too long and the zookeeper is bad at his job. But my 20-month-old son and I love it. I've read it to him since he was a baby. My son's favorite part is when the zookeeper's wife hears all the animals say goodnight, sits up with her eyes wide open and turns on the light to find a smiling gorilla in bed with her. He turns the pages to repeat that over and over. I like that the illustrations are very detailed, and I can find different things to point out to my son as I narrate the story like the zookeeper's name or that the armadillo has a bottle and pacifier or the banana peel on the last page. When he gets older, I'll ask him who he thinks ate the banana and what he thinks will happen when the zookeeper wakes up in the morning. The reason I am taking off a star is that our first copy fell apart, and I ordered a second copy. My son loves to turn the pages and was rough with the book. But, I think the bookbinding and spine are done a bit too loosely and that makes it easier to tear apart.

This is definitely my son's new favorite book. I just received this a few days ago, and I can not tell you how many times he has had me read it to him and how many times he has looked at it on his own. The book has super cute illustrations and has animals that are not always seen in zoo books such as armadillos and hyenas. Each page has so much for him to look at. In each animal's cage,

there are little toys to identify. Each cage is a different color so it helps to teach colors. On each page is balloon, and he has fun finding where it is in the sky in each picture. A charming little book that would be great for any small child. It is a good size for small hands, and the pages are nice and sturdy. They are slick, so sticky fingerprints can be easily removed with wet wipes. I am pleased that I purchased this book because it gives him so much pleasure.

My son loves the physical version of this book, so we grabbed the Kindle version to take along on trips. Unfortunately, the artwork is relegated to a thin strip in the middle of the page making it difficult to really enjoy. What's worse, the artwork is cropped on some pages so that vital details are cut out. My son loved finding the hidden balloon on each page. Too bad that it was completely cropped out on some pages in this version. I'm not sure what publishers find so difficult in converting books to an acceptable Kindle format, but this book continues the trend of low resolution images, poorly utilized space, and a seeming lack of care for the original work.

Let me explain. My daughter received her first copy of this book as a gift from the Dolly Parton library. And she (daughter, not Dolly) loved the book. We read it multiple times a day, sometimes multiple times an hour. She'd roar with the lion and gasp when the Zookeeper's wife turned on the light (want to know what she saw? Buy the book). She wore it out just around her first birthday. And by wore it out, I mean, she read it, tugged at the pages, and ripped them out. Then she cried when we were unable to fix the book. I filled in the gaps by playing a video of "Good Night, Gorilla" read by an adorable little girl on YouTube. But...the daughter wanted her own copy again. Enter . Thanks to Prime, the new edition of Gorilla rushed into the house, and life has returned to it's beautiful state.

This is an adorable and witty bed time book! When reading to my children, I always tried to imitate the animal voices saying goodnight: so soft & squeaky for a mouse, big & bold for the elephant and gruff & growly for the Lion. At one point the zookeeper's wife wakes up to realize all the animals followed her husband home & are getting settled on her bedroom floor. The entire page is black, except for her gasping eyes! I loved to gasp really loud at that point. As time went by, I got the joy of watching my very young children "reading" the story to themselves, making all the voice sounds and making a funny gasping face when the zookeeper's wife sits straight up in the dark. You can't go wrong with this little gem!

My son (16 months) adores this book! We got it at a thrift store and I had no idea it would become

the only book he wanted to read. Unfortunately he kept tearing the pages. So I ordered this board book version. It's the perfect size for him to "read" in the car too and no more torn pages! The only thing I think could have been improved on is it appears they just cropped the pages down to fit the new board book dimensions. Some of the speech bubbles are cut off on the sides of the pages where in the original version they are not.

Cute book but meant for children probably a year old or younger. Out of 34 pages there are only 12 actual pages with writing on them and all the writing says is "goodnight \_\_\_\_\_." Pretty boring for any child over the age of 1. The pictures are cute. Just not what I was expecting.

Positives  
Great colorful pictures  
Lots of background detail  
Only ten words, so time to use your imagination  
Funny surprise ending  
Good for infants, toddlers, and the very early beginning reader  
Great to learn types of animals at a zoo  
Lots of details  
Negative  
The gorilla stole the key  
Challenge ---Find the banana on a string in each drawing

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