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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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Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 6

Customer Reviews

Gr 4-8-Twin teens explorers various locations and introduce readers to the wonders, animals, and people of the places they visit. Gannon is the impulsive, personable brother and Wyatt is the more

scientific. In Botswana, they try to save a lioness and her cubs from poachers. In Rainforest, they go in search of the mythical spirit bear but become lost in a forest full of danger. The stories are related as a series of journal entries from the boys' perspectives and highlight the inherent beauty as well as the perils of each locale. The books have a strong conservationist point of view, and the siblings encounter trouble not only from their natural surroundings but also from man-made threats to themselves and the environment. Each book also contains native people who help Gannon and Wyatt understand the areas they are exploring and, in some cases, help them survive. The brothers are based on a real-life twins. At the beginning of Botswana, it is sometimes difficult to differentiate between the two boys, but the authors find their voices about halfway through and it is clear from that point going forward. The action picks up in the second title, which is marginally better than the first, but the books focus primarily on painting a picture of the boys' travels and surroundings, and they do this well. The novels offer good entry points into these exciting worlds and should be enjoyed by anyone who likes reading about adventure and discovery.-Erik Knapp, Davis Library, Plano, TX

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"This exciting 140-page novel is the first in a series of adventure books for the 9-12 age group. It is about twin brothers whose parents have jobs which take them to different places in the world. In this book, the brothers travel to Botswana. Their story is told, quite cleverly, in journal form: first one brother writing in his diary and then the other brother - a technique that might inspire young readers to keep their own diaries. While in Botswana, the boys go on a safari. They see and learn much about African wildlife, and at one point, they come upon a lioness that has been shot by poachers. The brothers help nurse it back to health and take care of her cubs. Then the boys' adventure really picks up when they run into the poachers. Parents will find it just the right combination for growing children with lessons about nature and life in general." ----National Outdoor Book Awards

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.

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.

I give this book 5 stars! I loved the way each boy is keeping a journal showing different perspectives about the same adventure. My students loved reading the adventure the boys had while learning fascinating facts about the country. The real photographs make the story that much more meaningful and exciting. My students couldn't wait to read the next Gannon & Wyatt adventure.

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 recently added three of these titles to our school library. Our fifth grade boys are passing them around enthusiastically. It's a great series that models family values, integrity, and ethics, and teaches the reader about geography and natural sciences while providing enjoyable adventures. I look forward to new titles to buy for our students!

Thank you for this adventure which I am sharing with my granddaughter who lives too far away-we read together-her on her hardcover, me on my kindle. I just gave to my grand nephew for Christmas. A wonderful way to embrace reading, adventure and opening young eyes to cultural and

career opportunities. Tim's mom

This book is one of my favorite books.Ever. Which is saying something. Okay,many not as awe striking as The Lord of the Rings,or Harry Potter but still amazing. They are coming out with more but are ridiculously over priced on the kindle

we traveled to Botswana a few years ago with our family and reading this book was exactly similar to the trip we took, the little planes and all. I really enjoyed this book as it brought back such good memories. Botswana is the best safari in all of Africa.

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