



Corduroy

Don Freeman

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A picture book classic!

One of School Library Journal's "Top 100 Picture Books" of all time (2012)

One of the National Education Association's "Teachers' Top 100 Books for Children."

Don Freeman's classic character, Corduroy, is even more popular today than he was when he first came on the scene in 1968. This story of a small teddy bear waiting on a department store shelf for a child's friendship has appealed to young readers generation after generation.

Corduroy Details

Date : Published September 30th 1976 by Puffin Books (first published 1968)

ISBN : 9780140501735

Author : Don Freeman

Format : Paperback 32 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books

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From Reader Review Corduroy for online ebook

Nevena says

I accidentally ran into this book on the goodreads homepage and it brought the tears of joy to my eyes!

This was probably my favorite picture book when I was a child! Since it's in English, my mother had to read it to me because I didn't learn English until I was 10. It had the most beautiful pictures ever, and the story was so beautiful.

During the recent house cleaning I re-discovered this book again, and I read it on my own, probably for the first time in my whole life! I have put it safe and sound on my book shelf, where it will stay until I have children or nephews of my own to read this wonderful book to.

Jason says

Why five stars? Because I can, and if you don't like it, I'll see to it that you have a nipple ripped off, and that there's no little girl around to sew it back on you! This book was awesome when I was a kid, and it still is. However, the escalator scared me because I always thought it was going to eat Corduroy. See, even as a child I was fucked up in the head; a great big ball of fear, ha ha. The security guard was a little scary too. Plus, he's a little bear all alone in the mall after closing time. He was all alone, and couldn't find the button for his overalls. This book was traumatizing, but it was still completely AWESOME! It has a feelgood ending to it when he gets his button back, and the little girl takes him home.

I don't have a copy of this book; I need to get one. I've been threatening to do it for over a year now so I can read it to my nieces and nephew, but still haven't done it.

The date finished is a near approximation. I remember reading along on the television, though I really couldn't read then. This was back when TV would show the pictures that were in the book, and a narrator would read what was on that page. I'd sit Indian style in front of the TV, and just watch it. I think I watched/read this book/show several times back then. Maybe it was on Mr. Rogers? I can't remember.

Andre Gonzalez says

I remember reading this as a child and now enjoy reading it to my little girl!

Asha says

I love this cute little book about a bear in green corduroy overalls. It is definitely on my list of books to get for my own child (if I have one). I'd also want to get a Corduroy bear, too.

Leah Craig says

Got to read one of my old favorites to the kids at work today :)

Cindi says

A classic sweet tale of a little bear that finds a home in a little girl's heart.

Candice says

My mother raised me on Corduroy and now I am continuing tradition with my little one. This book will absolutely always have a special place in my heart.

Crystal Marcos says

Corduroy has an wholesome, old time feel to it. My toddler daughter and I enjoyed reading this together. I liked seeing things happening through Corduroy's eyes. I was rooting for the little guy to find a home and for someone to look past the fact that he wasn't in perfectly new shape. If we owned this one, I could see my daughter requesting it over and over.

This was a Children's Picture Book Club read for the month of December:
<http://www.goodreads.com/topic/show/7...>

Rosy says

I think I've found a new favorite book.

What is this stuff falling from my eyes? YES, I'M CRYING.

My heart breaks and melts for stuffed animals and dolls, "You must be a friend". <3 <3 <3

Corduroy, the cutest teddy bear, and a lonely one too, meets a little girl who will be her friend, and it was love at first sight.

TEARS <3

pd: My heart can't take this.

Brian Yahn says

Corduroy is the tried-and-true story of an outcast toy in search of an owner/happiness. As a sort of allegory for that, he's also missing a button. And at the end he finds them both.

It's well written, well illustrated, but the only adventure Corduroy goes on is up an escalator in a mall--not exactly the most exciting thing. On top of that, it doesn't really have any surprises or twists or ups-and-downs. The Velveteen Rabbit just seems like a much better version of the same story.

Kathryn says

Corduroy was one of my childhood favorites and I still love it! I am struggling to write an adequate review, and since I am pressed for time I will just say for now that I love everything about it! I feel all the emotions are conveyed so well, from Corduroy's loneliness to the girl's sense of finding a "kindred spirit" in the bear, to Corduroy's wish to find the button to make himself more appealing, to his glorious adventure (oh, how I loved that escalator "mountain" and the many fabulous mattresses, and tugging and tugging to get that button off!), to the fright with the night watchman and finally Lisa coming back with her own money to bring Corduroy home and sewing on the button, not because she felt anything was wrong with him, but so he would feel more comfortable. I love the end, with the realization of what it feels like to have a true friend. And the illustrations have always captivated me!

I am so grateful a GoodReads friend alerted me to the 40th Anniversary edition. It is just wonderful! I love the format (with the letters between Don and his editor being "real" letters you can pull out of envelopes, and facsimile versions at that) and the glimpse into the writer-editor relationship. The manuscript draft where his editor makes her comments is so enlightening and would interest anyone who is or is interested in being a writer, I think (it's great to see that even genius authors like Don Freeman needed that collaboration and other insight to make their work truly sparkle). The only thing I didn't really like in the format is that it seemed really jarring to go from the vivid correspondence to turning the page and seeing it covered with newspaper clipping of Freeman's obituary. Though it did provide some great insight into more facets of his life, I guess I would have liked something a bit gentler. I also would have liked to know a bit more about the children to whom he dedicated the book and spoke of in his correspondence (I guess they might be relations of the editor, perhaps?) All in all, though, I highly recommend the 40th Anniversary edition to anyone who is a fan of the book or looking at a bygone era of author-editor relationships.

Sean Gibson says

I'm not entirely sure why, but when reading this book aloud, I'm always compelled to give Corduroy a (very bad) British accent. I think I mix him up with Paddington in my head. But [SPOILER ALERT], there's no marmalade in this book. Lots of hullabaloo about buttons, though.

Whole And says

I've fallen in love with Corduroy. Just like Lisa, the little girl in Don Freeman's children's book, who buys Corduroy from the toy department with her piggy bank savings.

Corduroy sadly believes that his missing button is why he's still on the shelf instead of at home with the little

girl so he goes on a search to find his button.

Lisa reappears and buys Corduroy anyway, loving him whole, despite his missing button. Once at home with Lisa, she sews a new button for Corduroy but says "I like you the way you are but you'll be more comfortable with your shoulder strap fastened." Truly moved by this loving statement, I emphasized for my daughter the message that Corduroy is perfect just the way he is. The button will only make life a little easier for him.

I feel this message is so important, for parents to love themselves as they are and extend a wholistic love to their children, particularly in a world where we are inundated with messages attempting to convince us that we are deficient and marketing that sells us things to fill the hole.

A second empowering message in this wonderful book is the concept of home. On his button-finding-journey, Corduroy believes he has found a palace (the second floor of the department store) but when Lisa shows him his new room, although much smaller than the palace, he knows he has found a home, something he's always wanted.

Donalda Donni says

This is my second favorite book ever. It was the first book I ever read that had a lead character that looked like me. (And no, I don't mean the bear.) The little Black girl, (Penny, I think?) was well groomed and cared for, and SO nice.

People out there who've always had characters in books and magazines who look like them won't 'get it'. The significance will be lost on them I fear. But it's instances like that that help establish a child's self-esteem and community worth.

Besides, it was a sweet story, non-religious based, that showed how to be a good person. Oh, and the shopping one-on-one with Mom was pretty significant too... said the girl with three siblings.

Theresa Marsala says

Another classic children's story that I have never read before. It was originally published in 1968 & to me it has undertones that reflect that time in our history with such great honesty & simplicity. Even though there is a cute little adventure that Corduroy goes on through the dept. store I feel that the main story is Lisa the little girl who sees him & loves him the way he is, so much so that she counts her money to go back and buy him. She takes him home to love & care for because she feels a connection to him. I feel like at that time a lot of groups of people had felt that way~ minorities & women especially- that were looking for a friend. A good story for children to learn about the meaning of friendship & responsibility & finding a bond for friendships.
