Helping your children choose books they will love

I reading

Lovereading4kids.co.uk is a book website created for parents and children to make choosing books easy and fun

Opening extract from

The Story of Babar

Written by

Jean de Brunhoff

Published by

Egmont Books Ltd

All Text is Copyright © of the Author and/or Illustrator

Please print off and read at your leisure.

Lovereading4kids.co.uk

JEAN DE BRUNHOFF

THE STORY OF BABAR

the little elephant

with a preface by A.A. Milne



EGMONT

This edition published in Great Britain 2008 by Egmont UK Ltd
239 Kensington High Street, London, W8 6SA
egmont.co.uk

ISBN 978 1 4052 3811 1

5 7 9 10 8 6 4

Printed in China

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the publisher and copyright owner.

Introduction

Two years ago at a friend's house I was introduced to Babar and Celeste. They spoke French then but they spoke it with a charming simplicity which saved me from all embarrassment. With a little trouble I managed to get them into my own house; and with no trouble at all they settled down at once as part of the family.

Since then I have been insisting that my publishers should take out naturalisation papers for them, and let them settle down at once in everybody else's family.

So here they are.

If you love elephants you will love Babar and Celeste. If you have never loved elephants you will love them now. If you who are grown-up have never been fascinated by a picture-book before, then this is the one which will fascinate you. If you who are a child do not take these enchanting people to your heart; if you do not spend delightful hours making sure that no detail of their adventures has escaped you; then you deserve to wear gloves and be kept off wet grass for the rest of your life.

I can say no more. I salute Monsieur de Brunhoff. I am at his feet.

A. A. Milne



In the Great Forest
a little elephant was born.
His name was Babar.
His mother loved him dearly
and used to rock him to sleep
with her trunk,
singing to him softly the while.

Babar grew fast.
Soon he was playing with the other baby elephants.

He was one of the nicest of them.
Look at him digging in the sand with a shell.