



## **My Remarkable Little Monkey**

*Mark Lages*

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Marty Anderson is looking for some companionship and decides he must have a monkey. It is a decision that will soon change his life. The capuchin monkey he purchases turns out to be more than just an ordinary little tree-swinging pet. This monkey, named Shakespeare, is exceptionally bright. Marty does everything he can think of to accommodate his furry brilliant friend, but it just doesn't seem to be enough. Join Marty and his group of unforgettable friends as they try to give Shakespeare a proper upbringing in an unpredictable human-oriented world. In *My Remarkable Little Monkey*, the outlandish becomes a reality and the status quo becomes unbelievable. Once you are done reading, you'll put this book down while scratching your head and wondering what just happened.

## **My Remarkable Little Monkey Details**

Date : Published April 27th 2017 by Authorhouse

ISBN : 9781524690021

Author : Mark Lages

Format : Paperback

Genre : Fiction

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## **From Reader Review My Remarkable Little Monkey for online ebook**

### **Olivia Farr says**

In typical Lages style, "My Remarkable Little Monkey" is a quirky story told in a conversational tone. Here, we follow Marty who decides to buy a monkey and name him Shakespeare, after the Infinite Monkey Theorem (that a monkey left in a room with a word processing computer for an infinite amount of time would type the words of Shakespeare perfectly without typos). Shakespeare isn't just any monkey though- he's exceptionally intelligent, able to talk and act like a human.

Lages uses a very conversational tone in his books, so you feel like the narrator is talking to you casually, and this book is no different. This style seems to move it along at a decent (steady) pace, although it does slow down towards the end and drag a bit later on. The content is a bit odd but interesting, and perhaps less surreal than Lages's other books. A highly intelligent monkey is not so far out of the blue. Marty is a likable character and very personable, which makes his story worth reading. Shakespeare was well developed as well, and the journey between the two was clever and at times heartwarming. Overall, I think fans of Lages's other books will enjoy this one!

Please note that I received this book from the author. All opinions are my own.

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### **E says**

If you are looking for a story about a silly monkey, don't look here. If you looking for a book that makes you think then "My Remarkable Little Monkey" is a must read book. It has been a while since I've read such a thought provoking, humorous, honest, truth telling book. Sometimes the truth was hard to swallow – in your face truths that challenge our way of thinking about human character, double standards, selfishness, and greed. What I loved about this story was Shakespeare, the main character who happens to be a really smart monkey and his reminders of looking for the good in life, how to be happy, to feel good about oneself, and how all life is sacred. Man is supposed to be one of the most intelligent species on this planet, yet as Shakespeare shows us, is easily manipulated by the media, religion, politics and social norms. I really enjoyed reading this book and hope that you will give it a chance, you might be surprised and learn something new about yourself.

Thanks Mark Lages for a great read. Looking forward to reading more of your books.

I won this book a Goodreads.com.

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### **Diane Haney says**

I have read several books by this author. He never disappoints. I find Mr. Lages the most original, most creative of all the authors I have read from the Goodreads site. Marty decides to adopt a capuchin monkey. He soon discovers this is no ordinary monkey. Shakespeare has an IQ higher than most humans and a thirst for knowledge that Marty is determined to help his monkey achieve. Part of the brilliance of this novel is that

we accept all that Shakespeare does as, maybe not normal, but totally probable. Shakespeare is a philosopher and eventually his ideas and opinions no longer find favor with the masses. As Marty says about Shakespeare " All he ever wanted to be was honest and thoughtful, but for some reason, honesty and thoughtfulness weren't too highly regarded. Perhaps they never have been, and maybe they never will be." You will just have to read the book to find out what these controversial opinions are and what happens to Shakespeare.

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## **Erin says**

I was not expecting a monkey so remarkable that he could burp out a haiku but I got one. I had mixed emotions while reading this book. I thought it was a compelling enough read but towards the end, maybe the last 50 pages, I just wanted the author to wrap things up. That doesn't happen very often but a monkey that could not only speak but do so while burping a haiku regained my waning attention. That's talent but monkeys are trouble so that's where it ends.

I feel like I started this review backwards lol. I got a copy of this for free, thank you to the author and the publisher. When I started reading this I thought it was a true story. I would tell my sister about this crazy monkey book I was reading but it didn't take me long to realize it wasn't true. The whole time I was reading it I'd randomly update my sister about what was happening, all the while reminding her that it wasn't true. I mean, most monkeys are of the poo flinging mentality and don't have much to say about the nuances of the English language. Not Shakespeare. He wrote books, could belch better than most teenagers, spoke, had an IQ greater than mine (I'm almost positive anyways), is toilet trained, and made a movie. I'm not sure why I wanted this to be a real story so badly but that didn't change my opinion of the book.

Aside from the initial disappointment of this being fiction instead of non-fiction the only other thing that bothered me was when one of the characters in the book died. Normally, I'd be bummed, at the very least, possibly sobbing like I'm watching a Lifetime movie. I barely reacted. So, that happened, I scratched my head and realized I didn't really get attached to any of the characters. But, don't read this if you haven't watched the finale of the current season of Game of Thrones, I wasn't giddy like when Little Finger got tag teamed by the Stark girls. <- Sound like something he'd like but I'm intentionally not ruining that for you.

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## **Gayle Slagle says**

My Remarkable Little Monkey by Mark Lages is in a word remarkable. There are many other adjectives that I could use to describe this little gem of a book such as insightful, quirky, off-beat, unique, intriguing.....but I am not sure any of them do it justice. I am not going to give a summary of the book because if I did, I am pretty sure you would not choose to read it, which would be a mistake. Now I like a book that has all of the attributes that I just listed, but when I read the blurb on the book cover, I thought, "Now, this might just be the silliest premise for a book ever," and to be frank, some of the story line is quite outside the box of realism or even believability. However, I simply could not resist reading a book in which the main character is a monkey named Shakespeare, and I have no regrets that I opened it up and started reading away. The book addresses many issues in a way that left me going "hmmmmmm," and made me see things in an entirely new light. As the book cover stated, " Once you are done reading, you'll put this book down while scratching your head and wondering what just happened. " So, if you like reading books from a totally different perspective, that make you think, and make you feel, run, don't walk down to your nearest book store, or let your fingers

do the talking and order My Remarkable Little Monkey. You may hate it, or you may love it as I did, but you owe it to yourself to give it a try.

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### **Sue Williams says**

Marty is a very wealthy bachelor who has become disenchanted with the type of women he attracts. All they want is to be part of his money. He decides that what he needs is a pet, not an ordinary pet but a pet more like a companion. He decides to get a capuchin monkey. The man he purchases the monkey from tells him that this little year old monkey is exceptionally smart which turns out to be an understatement. He names his new pet William Shakespeare. Shakespeare mimics everything Marty does and soon is trying to speak because Marty speaks. As Shakespeare gets smarter and smarter, Marty realizes it is his duty to get Shakespeare an education. Soon Shakespeare is talking and starting to read. The story goes on to tell of the trials and tribulations of educating Shakespeare who turns out to be quite a philosopher. This is well written book and it is fun to see how Shakespeare deals with the world of humans. Much of what is in this book, as laid out by Shakespeare, are things most of us should take notice of. I won this e-book in a Goodreads Giveaway. This is my unbiased review.

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### **Tony Parsons says**

I don't think I can say enough about this book. # 1 for the 2017 yr.

Marty Anderson not your typical playboy, has found you would say a roommate. His name is Shakespeare.

The guy always gets the girl.

Follow the adventure & journey of Shakespeare, Marty Anderson (24, Berkley, UC Irvine; Bus) & Sarah (18, Berkley, UC Irvine; English).

I think all state/federal governments should be run by Shakespeare's.

I did not receive any type of compensation for reading & reviewing this book. While I receive free books from publishers & authors, I am under no obligation to write a positive review. Only an honest one.

A very awesome book cover, great font & writing style. A very well written comedy book. It was very easy for me to read/follow from start/finish & never a dull moment. There were no grammar/typo errors, nor any repetitive or out of line sequence sentences. Lots of exciting scenarios, with several twists/turns & a great set of unique characters to keep track of. This could also make another great comedy movie, an animated cartoon, or better yet a mini TV series. There is no doubt in my mind this is a very easy rating of 5 stars.

Thank you for the free Goodreads; Making Connections; Authorhouse; paperback book  
Tony Parsons MSW (Washburn)

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## **Olivia "Don't Blame Me I Voted for Hillary" says**

Adorable story of a man who decides to have a monkey as a pet. Soon afterwards, the monkey starts talking and then starts doing other humanlike things. I loved this book.

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## **Joanne says**

It was very unique& heartwarming and You can't help but love Shakespeare!! Parts I didn't really like- like- when he married a Human- I love Sci Fi, but really!!- but it also really makes you think about us humans and our hypocrisy- it is a book that will stick with me forever and make you think about life and what a truly remarkable gift it is. This little monkey truly understood humans and wrote about it, which humans didn't like their flaws pointed out! GOod story, would make a great movie if they didn't mess with it!!!! If you like sci fi and fantasy i guess you'd say you'd like this little adventure with Shakespeare, the remarkable little monkey!!!

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## **Deborah says**

The story is about a man, Marty, who is looking for something to make his life more meaningful. Marty decides that getting a monkey, he names Shakespeare, is just what he needs. The monkey is not your typical pet. He potty-trains himself, learns to speak, and eventually goes away to college. Shakespeare feels he can provide a monkey's perspective on real world issues, so he begins to write excerpts for the newspaper and a eventually books, but things get crazy as the public becomes angry with his perspective. I didn't know what to expect from the book based on the unusual preview. However, I did really enjoy the book. It was silly, entertaining and very thought provoking. It allows for an open minded viewpoint on serious topics which may otherwise be considered off limits. I have read other books from this author and I have to say, that this is one of my favorite Mark Lages books.

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## **Lori says**

The book was a clever way to state the author's points of view without it being preachy because they came through the words spoken and written by his monkey Shakespeare. At times, the I thought the author went too far with Shakespeare's experiences (i.e., getting married). However, there were several places in the book which really made me think of the human race and all our idiosyncrasies and hypocrisy on things such as killing, war, and 'taking sides'. The 'taking sides' as we human's ALWAYS do, was the most profound for me because it is exactly true. We take a side and try to persuade others to join our 'side'.

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## **Heather says**

This is an unusual book. It's about a Capuchin who is anything but ordinary. It's a creative way for the author

to share his philosophical views. At first I thought it was a little predictable, but as I read more I got really involved in the monkey's life and how it affected the characters. I didn't mind the philosophical part because I mostly agree with the author; however, if you have very firm views and opinions and happen to disagree with the author, you may not like that part of the book. I think the author did a good job presenting his views in a non-confrontational way.

The author himself says, "I anticipate some readers will find the absurd premise of this book hard to take seriously. Perhaps some will even think it's a little childish, but this is not a children's book. And if you'll give it a chance, I think you'll enjoy it." I didn't think it too childish, and I did enjoy it.

He goes on to say, "...my objective is to tell a story that is entertaining and thought provoking....I try to explore what it means to be different..." I read most of the book in one sitting, so I think he did what he wanted.

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### **Amber says**

I received this book through a Goodreads giveaway and I am so glad that I did! I was apprehensive at first as I didn't know what to expect from a book about a guy and his monkey. But this book is about so much more than a guy and his monkey. Shakespeare, the monkey, potty-trained himself, learned to speak, and eventually attended college. Along the way, he decides to offer his objective, non-human evaluation of humanity, addressing issues such as abortion, being transgender, racism, and religion. Being a monkey, he feels he can provide an outsider's perspective, but things go awry as the public becomes angry with his perspective. I found his views thought-provoking and, while I didn't agree with all of them, I appreciate the self-evaluation this book prompted. If you want to challenge yourself to understand your thoughts on these issues, you will not be disappointed in picking up this book.

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### **Mandy Wultsch says**

This is a story of Marty Anderson, a lonely young man, who gets more than he bargained for when he buys a pet capuchin monkey. Odd choice of a pet for many of us, but Marty is not exactly normal, either. Marty is an independently wealthy orphan living by himself at the beginning of the story.

His new pet monkey is christened Shakespeare and quickly becomes a character that readers will feel affection for. The narrator is Marty, and Marty's love of Shakespeare shows in the way the story is told. This pet becomes more of a companion than many pets are. Like it says in the theme to the Golden Girls, he becomes "a friend and a confidant."

On the surface this is a fun story about a man with a pet monkey. However, if the story was just about a pet monkey it could have been a picture book for kids, but the philosophical and ethical questions raised make this story intriguing on many different levels. Answers for some of those questions are presented from the point of view of an amazingly bright (even for a human) monkey, his owner, and various other characters, but other questions are asked and the reader is left to think them over and answer for themselves. Shakespeare serves as an intelligent observer of humanity, interacting with but not quite part of it, letting the

reader reflect on the often contradictory mind of man (and woman).

(view spoiler)

Shakespeare acts as a mirror for humanity, looking and evaluating our culture and species, pointing out cognitive dissonance at several points. If you are looking for a light story, this is a mostly upbeat one. If you are looking for a deeper work with subtle symbolism and deep ruminations, this is also a good one.

I would suggest this book for middle school age and up. There is a brief discussion of abortion and interspecies relationships (with consent by a sentient creature), but nothing graphic.

I received this book through the Goodreads Giveaways program. Thank you to the author and/or publisher.

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### **Susan Bennett says**

A quirky tale that's fun to read. I would have given five stars except I felt that the ending dragged a little.

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