



# The Nativity

*Julie Vivas*

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## **The Nativity** Julie Vivas

The biblical story of the Nativity is one about faith, love--and a miracle. With illustrations that are enchanting and unexpected, Julie Vivas reveals the human side to Mary's story, beautifully imagining the Angel Gabriel delivering the news to her, the exhausting journey with Joseph to Bethlehem, and at last the deliverance of the baby Jesus.

## **The Nativity Details**

Date : Published October 1st 2006 by HMH Books for Young Readers (first published 1986)

ISBN : 9780152060855

Author : Julie Vivas

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# **From Reader Review The Nativity for online ebook**

## **Lois Boerman says**

I read this book every year at Christmas. Beautifully illustrated by Julie Vivas. From Joseph cupping his hands to help Mary get on the donkey to Jesus' peek-a-boo eyes after Mary has "brought forth her firstborn son" the illustrations TELL THE STORY.

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## **Heather says**

I love Julie Vivas' illustrations and her work in this book is no exception. However, I found the light, whimsical and humorous style of her illustrations detracted from the gravitas of Jesus' birth and didn't match with the KJV Biblical text.

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## **Pam says**

Delightful illustrations accompany the Nativity story. They show the human side of this incredible event.

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## **Marissa Pineda says**

This is my favorite nativity picture book. The text is taken from the KJ Bible and the illustrations are a treat. The tattered wings and combat boots on the angels are a fun interpretation. Pregnant Mary is portrayed more realistically in this cartoon style than in more traditional renderings. Joseph looks as worried and weary as he is protective and awed by his new family. Vivas' style is human and whimsical at the same time. Some may be bothered by the illustration of a naked newborn Jesus (it's a boy!) but I thought it was precious.

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## **Maren Prestegaard says**

I think people will either love or hate these cartoony illustrations. I disliked them. I guess I prefer an illustration of Mary that is more ethereal than looking like a character from the Family Circus.

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## **Sarah says**

Well, of course I love the story because it is about the birth of Christ! The aft, gentle illustrations make this a keeper. There are a plethora of versions of the Christmas story and this one is worth purchasing.

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## **Emma says**

My favorite nativity story.

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## **Agn? says**

3.5 out of 5

The text of this picturebook -- the Nativity story from the King James version of the Bible -- is brought to life by whimsical and cartoonish but at the same time surprisingly realistic (and clever!) Vivas' illustrations:

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## **Taryn says**

Julie Vivas is one of my top three children's book illustrators, so I was ecstatic to find this version of the Nativity. I love that the words are simply those from the Bible (KJV), and I love Vivas's signature earthy style applied to this most important story. I just wish she hadn't had the wise men at the stable--they actually arrived when Jesus was two or so.

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## **Maxwell Rae says**

I learned a new word "espoused", but it was the only thing I liked about this book. Mummy isn't religious, but I haven't made my mind up yet. This story was worded weirdly, the sentence structure was odd and I didn't really understand what happened.

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## **Ruth says**

I adore this book. I consider myself a connoisseur of Christmas books, and this may be my favorite illustrated scriptural version now. The text is from the King James Version of the Bible, and the illustrations are whimsical and sacred at the same time. I absolutely love it.

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## **Jana says**

This version of the Nativity story uses Vivas' folksy illustrations and combines it with the Bible story of the birth of Jesus. This would be a nice picture book to share with young readers during the Christmas season to help them understand the true meaning of the holiday.

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## **Lois says**

Text is the KJV and the illustrations are amazing.... Gabriel having tea with Mary and wearing work boots!

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## **Gordon says**

While **The Nativity**, by Julie Vivas, is intended for early readers, I love how the contemporary style in which she depicts the familiar characters makes everyone much more relatable to even an adult readership. We have such unwavering notions of Joseph, Mary, and the Angel Gabriel in our heads that it can be challenging to imagine their truest essence in which they are much more like you and me than we might perceive. The text, derived from the well known scriptural verses in the book of Luke are distilled to the most pertinent in the telling of the birth of Jesus.

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## **Katrina says**

A new favorite! I don't know how she combines all of these things, but the illustrations are beautiful in ethereal pastels, funny (boot-wearing angels who get stuck in trees), and so very down to earth. That's my favorite thing about them--this Mary looks like she's about to pop on her way to Bethlehem and Joseph has to shove her up on the donkey. And after she gives birth, she is too exhausted to even shoo the chickens away--and Joseph gets to hold the newborn baby for once! She does such a good job of making the Incarnation feel truly human.

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