



The Adventures of Chatterer the Red Squirrel

Thornton W. Burgess

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Author and editor of numerous children's books, Thornton W. Burgess was also a noted conservationist. In writing for youngsters he combined a gift for storytelling with his love of the outdoors, creating an entertaining menagerie of animals whose adventures he skillfully recounted in a series of charming fables. In them, he taught young readers about nature and encouraged them to love the "lesser folk in fur and feathers." In this delightfully told tale, Burgess chronicles the escapades of Chatterer the Red Squirrel, who's known throughout the Green Forest as a mischief maker. Narrowly escaping the clutches of Shadow the Weasel and Redtail the Hawk, the bushy-tailed little fellow decides to leave the forest for a new home, only to learn that curiosity, carelessness, and mistrust can lead to a heap of troubles.

First published in 1915, this engaging story will charm readers of all ages — as well as young listeners.

The Adventures of Chatterer the Red Squirrel Details

Date : Published September 18th 1992 by Dover Publications (first published 1915)

ISBN : 9780486273990

Author : Thornton W. Burgess

Format : Paperback 96 pages

Genre : Childrens, Classics, Animals, Fiction

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From Reader Review The Adventures of Chatterer the Red Squirrel for online ebook

Caleb says

i liked it

Amy says

Great read-aloud children's literature. Covers all kinds of wholesome topics like gossiping, conscience, wisdom and more without being preachy or boring. My K-3rd class loved it! It speaks on their level without being trite or silly.

Kest Schwartzman says

sweet. unlike most of these, this one has almost no problematic things in it that I wouldn't want to explain to a child.

John says

Burgess has a gift for writing instructive stories that help the reader better understand their own motivations and desires. His characters are all flawed in ways that we all are, and so when he writes of their foibles, he helps us understand our own.

These are good stories for young readers, or, in my case, listeners, as I read these out loud to my kids. They love them, and I admire Burgess's cleverness.

NightAuditMan says

This book is only one part of a whole series of books. In fact it's the 9th out of 20. I suspect that if you were to read all of them there'd be a whole general story arc but I found this one alone and by itself at Goodwill.

This little story on it's own deals with Chatterer the Red Squirrell who is basically always buffing himself and what he think's he can do up. This seems to annoy everyone in the forrest and more likely then naught he finds himself in rather sticky situations. He just goes on ignoring the little voice inside his head which has been trying to tell him the right and wrong things to do in a given situation.

He winds up being caught by a Farmers Boy - this would probably be the ongoing story arc as other characters have different stories about him that are doled out in little snippets - and finds out the boy isn't so bad as he thought but being stuck in a cage sucks. The boy lets him go and he learns to trust the voice inside

of him.

It seemed a very long and unusual way to tell this kind of "moral" story. Clocking in at 120 pages, I am thinking I could find a smaller story that could get the same effect. There are also some turns of phrase that just didn't sit well with me, but I suppose that comes from the era in which it was written, sometime in the mid-60's.

I suppose if you had the whole collection it wouldn't be that bad, but on it's own it was barely passable.

Domenique Camilleri says

I think this book was good because it was something i could pick up and read. When i had nothing else this book would fill my mind with many questions because of all the things that were going on in the book. Even if some people dont like this book i know that i did. It was a cute book to read because of how everything was put together.

Gale says

Watch Your Tongue and Listen to your Conscience!

By the 1940's Thornton W. Burgess had penned some 21 animal adventures for little people--Chatterer being next to the last.

Curiously enough the author includes Peter Rabbit (a Beatrix Potter creation) as one of the characters—which might have raised eyebrows, if not charges of outright plagiarism. Consisting of many short chapters designed not to tax the attention span of young folks. So the story begins when Shadow, the Weasel (all characters are followed by some species or attributes) declares war on Chatterer—obliging the cheeky little fellow (who anthropomorphically wears a bolero jacket) to seek a new residence beyond the Green Forest.

Various animal friends and acquaintances help or hinder the chatterbox's attempt to find a new home. Still influenced by 19th century tendencies to Instruct children rather than Entertain them, Burgess interjects little moral asides to refine children's manners.

The main lesson presented here is one of watching one's tongue and minding one's inner voice (conscience). In other words: that Chatterer is somewhat to blame for his series of misfortunes. There is also the element of learning to trust another species and that hope that humans will be kind to dumb animals.

May 9, 20

Qt says

I really like these books, and love the illustrations.

Leigh says

Another one in the Burgess series. Most of the books have similiar plots. The lead character has various misadventures as he interacts with the little animals of the forest. Originally published in the early 1900's these are fun titles to share with small children.

James says

Pretty much an allegory of my life.

Bri says

This is an absolutely adorable children's book

Dana says

Likable tale! Cute character.

NuNu says

Did not like the page numbers interspersed throughout the story.

Heather says

Loved this book, the story and the writing style. We will definitely read more of his work from this series. If you are reading it aloud to a child, be aware that you may have to make some adjustments on the fly - there are some words that don't mean the same things today as when Burgess was writing. Namely: the characters Black Pussy and Tommy Tit, and the word queer (as in strange) used profusely.

Aimee says

Never read a Thornton Burgess book I didn't like.

Noella Van Looy says

Dit boekje gaat over Chatterer de rode eekhoorn. Het begint al als de wezel teruggekeerd is in het bos, en jacht maakt op Chatterer. Chatterer weet dat de wezel niet zal rusten voor hij hem te pakken gekregen heeft, dus besluit hij te verhuizen, weg uit het Groene Bos. Hij vindt een nieuwe stek dicht bij de boerderij van farmer Brown, maar als hij steeds maïs blijft stelen, wordt hij op een keer gevangen in een val. Farmer Brown's Boy maakt een kooi voor hem, en geeft hem lekker eten, een speeltje en een knus stammetje om een bedje in te maken. Hoewel hij op materieel gebied alles heeft wat hij maar kan wensen, begint Chatterer weg te kwijnen omdat hij de vrijheid mist. Als Farmer Brown's Boy dit merkt, geeft hij hem de vrijheid. Chatterer beseft dat Farmer Brown's boy de kwaadste nog niet is, en graag vriendjes met hem is, en dus, nadat hij zijn vrijheid herkregeen heeft, vindt hij toch de moed om nootjes aan te pakken uit Farmer Brown's Boy's hand.

Een van de leukste boekjes uit deze serie die ik al gelezen heb.

Mckinley says

There's a series of stories each focusing on a different animal in the forest. This one is (mostly) about squirrel and escaping from enemies including the farmer boy who thinks of giving him to the cat. Read the series to get the perspective for different animals. Fun to read aloud for up to 8 years old I think.

Heather Wilmoth says

Mischievous and fun loving, Chatterer the Red Squirrel, The tale starts out with Chatterer being chased by one of the area's most feared predators: Shadow the Weasel. All seems hopeless for Chatterer until he comes up with a brilliant last minute plan and sets another predator after Shadow; proving that sometimes it pays to be mischievous! Chatterer escapes that scenario only to find himself a prisoner of Farmer Brown's boy. Now Farmer Brown's boy doesn't consider Chatterer to be his prisoner, only his pet of sorts as he put Chatterer in a cage. However, while Chatterer is well fed and looked after, he lacks the freedom that he so desires. That is until one day when Chatterer is lucky enough to escape when Farmer Brown's boy leaves the gate open; whether by accident or on purpose, we never truly find out. I loved this book as a kid but my library does not have it any more; (

Anna-Kathryn Kline says

How have I not read Thorton Burgess before?! One of my favorite books as a child was Wind in the Willows. Burgess' books remind me of it and expand that kind of world into so many more beautiful stories. My 3 y/o girl and I are both eating them up.

Angela says

What a wonderful story to read with my son. I love imagining the life of animals. The author did a great job

in giving us a great perspective of a squirrels life. ♥?
