



# Life on Mars

*Jon Agee*

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**In this sneaky, silly picture book for fans of Oliver Jeffers and Jon Klassen, an intrepid but not so clever space explorer is certain he's found the only living thing on Mars**

A young astronaut is absolutely sure there is life to be found on Mars. He sets off on a solitary mission, determined to prove the naysayers wrong. But when he arrives, equipped with a package of cupcakes as a gift, he sees nothing but a nearly barren planet. Finally, he spies a single flower and packs it away to take back to Earth as proof that there is indeed life on Mars. But as he settles in for the journey home, he cracks open his cupcakes only to discover that *someone* has eaten them all!

Readers will love being in on the secret: Unbeknownst to the explorer, a Martian has been wandering through the illustrations the whole time and he got himself a delicious snack along the way."

## Life on Mars Details

Date : Published February 28th 2017 by Dial Books

ISBN : 9780399538520

Author : Jon Agee

Format : Hardcover 32 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Space, Humor, Storytime, Science Fiction

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# **From Reader Review Life on Mars for online ebook**

## **Rachel says**

So delightful! Love that the illustrations convey a significant part of the story, such interesting characters.

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## **J says**

Read this to a group of preschoolers. It kept the attention of even the most easily-distracted kiddos.

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## **Jamila says**

My son and I love this book. It is delightful and beautiful.

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## **Jenny says**

This is definitely meant for young children, and I think young children will find it really funny. A young boy believes there is life on Mars, so he travels there to search for it. He can't find any (despite the enormous creature following behind him). I'm sure young children will think this is really funny.

I agree with other reviewers that it is problematic that when he does finally find life on Mars (a flower), he picks the flower to prove that there is life on Mars. However, this certainly could lead to some great discussions...are we ever oblivious to things happening around us? Do we ever unwittingly or intentionally cause harm to living things around us? What could the boy have done to bring back "proof" that wouldn't have caused any harm? Why might there be/not be life on Mars? What conditions are needed for there to be life on a planet? Granted, these discussion points go far beyond the scope of this book...and I probably wouldn't bring up most of them with really young children. But for early elementary age students, these discussion questions could turn this into a good teaching resource.

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## **Garrett says**

I'mma move to Mars where the life is still kind and not full of Nazis. Or maybe I'll just go to Canada or Europe...

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## **Suzie Bookgirl says**

When a young explorer heads for Mars he is sure he going to find life on the red planet. He hunts high and low and is on the verge of giving up when he spots something! As he explores he fails to notice that he is

being followed which gives the young audience a secret to share. On his way home he discovers that he was not alone!

This is a lovely read-a-loud with lots to talk about.

P.S. Megan is amazing. she is my favorite librarian ever. Or at least this week.

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### **Racheal says**

Ok maybe I'm being overly sensitive/reading too much into this, but it really bugged me that when the boy finds proof of life on Mars- the only life he's seen at all, and what, as far as he knows, *may be* the only life on Mars- he kills it in order to bring back as proof.

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### **Mischenko says**

*Life on Mars* by Jon Agee is a children's book about a boy astronaut searching for life on Mars.

The story is cute, very simple to read, and has an unexpected ending. We enjoyed the illustrations.

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### **Sasha says**

This book will answer all of your questions about life of Mars. All of them. You can go home now, NASA and Matt Damon.

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### **Brenda Kahn says**

This was a fun read aloud. Anything by Agee is pretty much a guaranteed read aloud success.

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### **Viviane Elbee says**

Fun book for space lovers - the astronaut is trying to find life on Mars and yet he cannot see a very large Martian, who follows him from behind.

Illustrations are perfect for this story.

It's also a quick read so it is appropriate for toddlers through young elementary students.

The kids laughed and voted to give this one 5 stars.

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### **Joshua says**

This book was precious and philosophically profound. Human beings are an ego-driven species that often can't see beyond their own selves, and this book with it's sweet astronaut and the martian who follows him around the planet reminds children to open their eyes and really observe their surroundings. Our dreams and ambitions are powerful forces in this life, but if we become blinded by them we'll miss the incredible events, forces, and species that make up this incredible universe.

And the Martian was just so cute.

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### **Chance Lee says**

A boy ends up on Mars because he believes there is life on Mars. He wanders the planet not seeing the giant monster who lives there. The illustrations are really nice and the monster is really cute.

However, when the kid finds life on Mars -- a flower -- he plucks it! Hooray, there's life on Mars. Now it's dead.

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### **Susan says**

2.5? I don't know. Ugh I really liked the pictures... I found the story problematic though :( My friend pinpointed what was bothering me - that the boy plucks the flower, thus killing it, to bring back as evidence of life on Mars. Also it made me really sad that the boy was so oblivious to the alien. I don't know why the review said fans of Oliver Jeffers would like this. The illustrations are pretty adorable, but Oliver Jeffers books to me are very sweet and friendship-affirming. I am probably thinking about this too much. It just kind of made me sad though.

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### **paula says**

That last page! The expression on the kid astronaut's face when he realizes something has happened that he hadn't noticed is the essence of sci-fi.

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