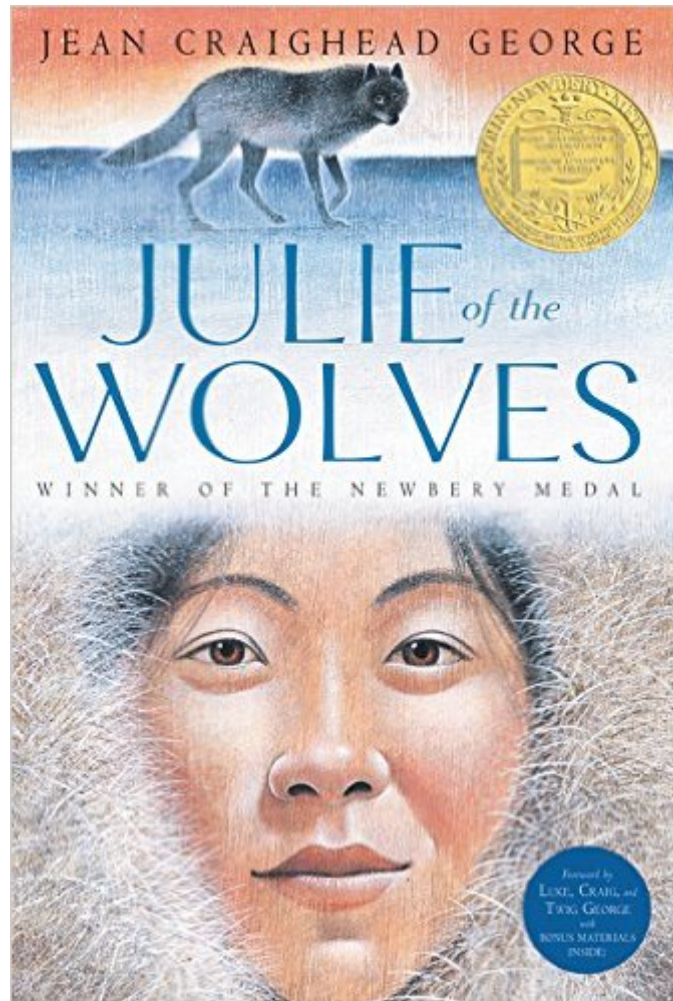


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Julie Of The Wolves (HarperClassics)



Synopsis

Jean Craighead George's Newbery Medal-winning classic about an Eskimo girl lost on the Alaskan tundra now features bonus content. This edition, perfect for classroom or home use, includes John Schoenherr's original scratchboard illustrations throughout, as well as extra materials such as an introduction written by Jean Craighead George's children, the author's Newbery acceptance speech, selections from her field notebooks, a discussion guide, and a further reading guide. *Julie of the Wolves* is a staple in the canon of children's literature and the first in the Julie trilogy. The survival theme makes it a good pick for readers of other wilderness stories such as *My Side of the Mountain*, *Hatchet*, or *Island of the Blue Dolphins*. To her small Eskimo village, she is known as Miyax; to her friend in San Francisco, she is Julie. When her life in the village becomes dangerous, Miyax runs away, only to find herself lost in the Alaskan wilderness. Miyax tries to survive by copying the ways of a pack of wolves and soon grows to love her new wolf family. Life in the wilderness is a struggle, but when she finds her way back to civilization, Miyax is torn between her old and new lives. Is she Miyax of the Eskimos or Julie of the wolves?

Book Information

Paperback: 176 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins; First Edition edition (January 5, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0064400581

ISBN-13: 978-0064400589

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.4 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 376 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #16,416 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #60 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Girls & Women #78 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Action & Adventure > Survival Stories #79 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Classics

Customer Reviews

View larger Jean Craighead George's Newbery acceptance speech In Mount McKinley National Park we found Gordon Haber cutting wood beside his cabin at Sanctuary River. Jays sang around him, and ground squirrels watched him, for Gordon was part of the ecology. He had spent three summers with the wolves and was preparing for his second winter. When I explained that I

was in Alaska to write about wolves, he took Luke and me to watch a pack at their summer den. For ten days we lay on our bellies, peering through a spotting scope and binoculars at these remarkable beasts. We saw the black alpha awaken, saw his pack nuzzle him under the chin ceremoniously, heard him open the hunt song with a solo. When all were alert, he would swing through the willows, his huntsmen at his heels, to test their crop of moose and caribou for harvesting. We never witnessed a kill, but we saw the ravens hover over kills and the hunters return home as fat as barrels to regurgitate food for their pups. We watched the puppies play bone ball, tug o'war, jump on the babysitter; and we became wholly involved in wolves. Luke, who had come to Alaska to fish, never strung up his rod again. One dawn we joined Haber on a trip to the deserted nursery den of his pack. We hiked through bog, sphagnum moss, and over the tundra to a remote valley. Pushing our way through tangled willows, we climbed to a bluff high above the river. There in a layer of white sand was the birthing den, a generous tunnel dug into the earth. It was topped with flowers and set beneath a small garden of twisted spruce. The entire home expressed family love. A play yard was worn in front of the den. Around it were the large saucer-like beds of adults. I could envision them watching the tumbling pups, grins on their faces.

[View larger](#) Most heartwarming, however, was a shaft that led straight down to the nursery chamber. It was a sort of telephone. During the first few weeks after birthing when the female remains in the den with the pups, the other adults stand over this hole and listen to the sounds from the den below: whimpers, sucking sounds, the contented grunts of happy puppies. When an adult wags his tail, he says, "All is well"; and the other wolves wag their tails, too. Just before leaving the den site, I sat down beside the entrance and scanned the wide valley. I wanted to see the rocks and mountains as the wolf sees them. I looked down, and my blood turned to ice. There below was an enormous grizzly, head down, fur swinging as he came down our trail. Instinct warned me to stand still, but reason told Gordon to act. He wanted us ahead of the bear so that we would not meet him face to face when he turned around to go home. "Run!" Haber said. Luke shot off like a prong-horn antelope; Gordon like a deer. I ran as if I were weighted down with lead, but I must have been zooming. As I leaped down a frost heave, I passed a jay in flight. When we were safely ahead of the bear, we heard a wild sound as if an orchestra were tuning up. I looked back. On the top of the hill stood the female wolf and her nine fat puppies, who bounded forward to greet us. One yip from their mother, and all the pups vanished. If there was any doubt in my mind that wolves speak to each other, it was banished in that moment.

Miyax, like many adolescents, is torn. But unlike most, her choices may determine whether she lives or dies. At 13, an orphan, and unhappily married, Miyax runs away from her husband's parents' home, hoping to reach San Francisco and her pen pal. But she becomes lost in the vast Alaskan tundra, with no food, no shelter, and no idea which is the way to safety. Now, more than ever, she must look hard at who she really is. Is she Miyax, Eskimo girl of the old ways? Or is she Julie (her "gussak"-white people-name), the modernized teenager who must mock the traditional customs? And when a pack of wolves begins to accept her into their community, Miyax must learn to think like a wolf as well. If she trusts her Eskimo instincts, will she stand a chance of surviving? John Schoenherr's line drawings suggest rather than tell about the compelling experiences of a girl searching for answers in a bleak landscape that at first glance would seem to hold nothing. Fans of Jean Craighead George's stunning, Newberry Medal-winning coming-of-age story won't want to miss *Julie* (1994) and *Julie's Wolf Pack* (1998). (Ages 10 and older) --Emilie Coulter --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

• The whole book has a rare, intense reality which the artist enhances beautifully with animated drawings. • (The Horn Book) • Jean George has captured the subtle nuances of Eskimo life, animal habits, the pain of growing up, and combines these elements into a thrilling adventure which is, at the same time, a poignant love story. • (School Library Journal (starred review)) • The evocatively written, empathetic story effectively evokes the nature of wolves and dramatizes how the traditional Eskimo way of life is giving way before the relentless onslaught of civilization. • (ALA Booklist) • It is a book anyone who loves the outdoors will find hard to forget. • (Boston Globe) • [Jean Craighead George's] novel is packed with expert wolf lore, its narrative beautifully conveying the sweeping vastness of tundra as well as many other aspects of the Arctic, ancient and modern, animal and human. It is refreshing to see the Arctic well portrayed through a woman's eyes. • (New York Times) 15 Banned Books Every Tween and Teen Should Read (Brightly.com)

I read this as a child and ordered it to read to my son and daughter before bedtime. My son loves the adventure of trying to survive lost and on your own in the frozen Alaskan tundra and my daughter loves the female lead character who befriends and joins a wolf family.

I read *Julie of the Wolves* as a child and ordered it to read it with my nephew who is in fourth grade during the Christmas Vacation. He loved the adventure of trying to survive on your own in the frozen

Alaskan tundra and joining the pack of wolves. It is a good book for both boys and girls from 4th to 6th grade or as a quick read for older.

Very good. Haven't finished it yet, but read a bit every night. Can't believe it's for young readers. Nice style.

So sorry that I didn't notice it was abridged. I like the unabridged. Needed more than an hour of this book.

Love this book

This book is a required summer read for my grandson. My grand son is entering middle school in September, and he seems to enjoy the book.

I had to read this for a Children's Literature class and really enjoyed it. I don't normally like books about animals, but Ms. George writes in a way that just pulls you right in. I enjoyed this book.

I haven't finished it yet but it is a good book. I t was a great little book. Would like to live like she did for about a month.

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