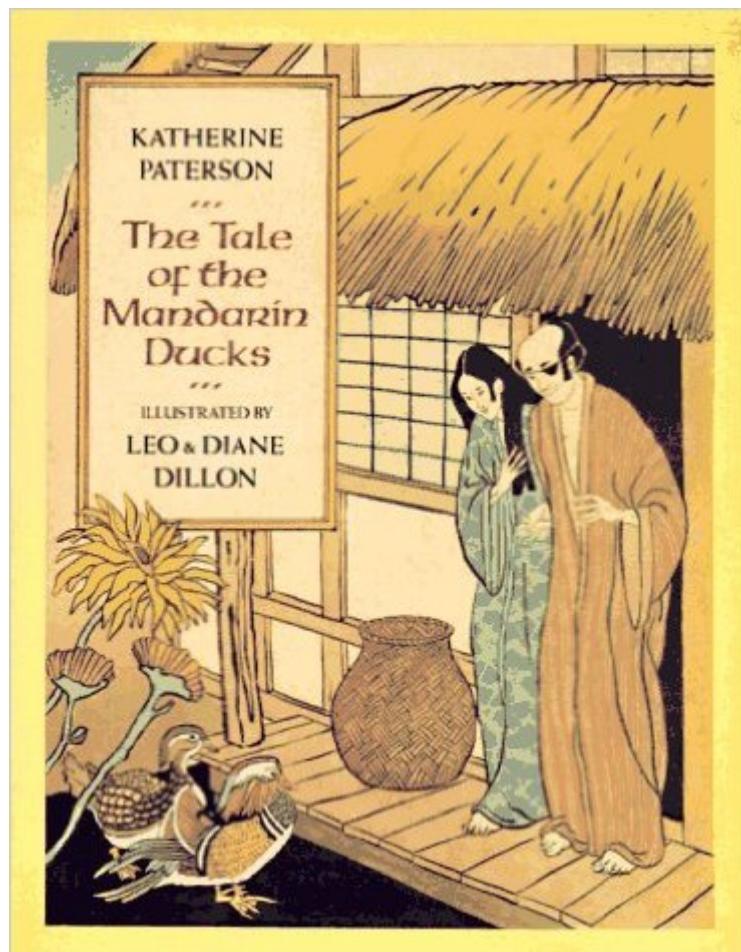


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The Tale Of The Mandarin Ducks



Synopsis

Coveting a mandarin duck for his magnificent plumage, a greedy Japanese lord captures and cages him for all to admire. But the wild drake pines for his mate. Some compassionate servants release the drake to go to his mate, but are sentenced to death for it--and the drake comes to their rescue. Watercolor and pastel paintings illuminate this Japanese folktale.

Book Information

Age Range: 4 and up

Lexile Measure: AD930L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Dutton Juvenile; 1st edition (September 26, 1990)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0525672834

ISBN-13: 978-0525672838

Product Dimensions: 8.8 x 0.4 x 11.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (14 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,809,526 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #132 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Asian #1658 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Multicultural

Customer Reviews

My granddaughter (11) and I have enjoyed this book immensely and are re-reading it often. She loves tales of Japan and the beautiful illustrations. My husband and I lived in Japan for 2 years. This book's story has good moral principles and is an easy way to teach kind thoughtful behavior and the benefits of love and responsibility.

This beautifully illustrated book and equally beautiful story is very moving. It is set in old Japan and is a look at Japanese history and culture. It is the story of love; of being willing to take chances to protect another and about kindness rewarding many times over. It speaks to the ripple effect of how one single act of kindness, in this case freeing an imprisoned drake will be rewarded lovingly.

I work as a children's librarian and as I was looking through my folktale and fairytale collection I came across this gorgeous book in poor condition and I purchased another copy so the children in

my library's community could continue to enjoy this lovely work of art. Sybil Blazej-Yee, Librarian and Artist and Children's Book Author

This book is great to read to kids! It has suspense and it also shows kids how doing the right thing can seem bad, but soon you'll get something back. I liked the moral of the story and I like the way they illustrated it to look just like ancient Japan.

This lovely book measures up to every standard one can reasonably expect. The artwork is skilled and enjoyable. The story has kindness, altruism, moral dilemma and resolution, reward, and a big touch of magic. There's a pleasant realism about story, too. It shows a number of details of Japanese life, in passing, to give a storybook kid views of a life [s]he might never have seen in person. And, although the words "happily ever after" never actually appear, the last page shows the young couple deep in their old age. The book, as a whole, meets every objective standard of what I like to see in a children's book. For me, though, this book goes way beyond reasonable standards, well into the things I favor in a very personal and subjective way. I take immense pleasure ukiyo-e prints, the classical Japanese woodcut style that these modern artists imitate. I first saw the picture of the sleeping couple as a greeting card, and found it affectionate and romantic, with a tiny chaste hint of very grown-up love - that image led me to hunt this book down. The one-eyed samurai has meaning in my family, too. And the "madarin ducks" of the title, traditional symbols of fidelity, have a strong and affectionate significance for me for utterly personal reasons. So I recommend this book to anyone with a read-to-me kid. It's very easy for anyone to like. For me, though, a striking set of coincidences make this a truly memorable work. //wiredweird

I bought this for my nephew a few years back, and I looked through it before wrapping it. The story is interesting yet simple, and the illustrations are beautiful. It also provides a nice little glimpse into another culture, which is nice for homeschooling families. I can't wait until my son is old enough to read this with him!

This story is very well-written and the characters are nicely fleshed out despite the short length of the tale. You really get to love them quickly (except for the bad guy, of course). And the art, which is on pretty much every page, is just wonderful! It definitely adds to the great story. All in all, I have really enjoyed this book and I think you will too.

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