



Pat the Bunny (Pat the Bunny)

Dorothy Kunhardt

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The original classic touch and feel book that has been entertaining babies for over 60 years.

Pat the Bunny (Pat the Bunny) Details

Date : Published May 1st 2001 by Golden Books (first published 1940)

ISBN : 9780307120007

Author : Dorothy Kunhardt

Format : Novelty Book 20 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books

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From Reader Review Pat the Bunny (Pat the Bunny) for online ebook

Denise says

This unexpurgated edition, with two experimental pages that were replaced with the mirror and smelly flowers, is worth the splurge for true literary scholars. You can see why they were cut - while mommy's rattling button box is fun, dolly's squeaky ball is next to impossible to use, unless you slam the book down on the table and then it squeaks great, and both add a lot of expense in manufacturing. My 6 month old doesn't seem to care for much except the bunny, which apparently, from what I can tell looking at original editions for sale, was made of a fuzzy fabric, because fake fur wasn't common in 1940, so this book is a tale of the potential value of constant editorial refinement in classic literature. So here you have it, the completest version of Pat ever compiled. (Recommended: academic, supplementary.)

brian says

ok as far as little kids books go.

what sets it apart is the book within a book called judy's book which wonders about a bunny's conception of time.

Alex says

One day you're going to open a box of your childhood toys and smell this book. You'll know it immediately. Oh, it's those horrendous flowers of Paul's, you'll think.

The book is non-gender-normative. Paul likes flowers. (He seems to gravitate towards ones that smell like grandmothers.) Daddy is...well, daddy, is pretty.

Bunny is big. How big is bunny? Sooooooo big! Bunny is vaguely menacing, especially in Judy's book within a book that, like Arabian Nights or If On a Winter's Night a Traveler, expands and undermines the universe of the book we're reading. Who is this story about? Is it Paul and Judy? Is it the bunny? Is it you?

Written in 1940, Pat the Bunny was the progenitor of a whole series of touchy children's books, reaching their unholy apex with the That's Not My... series. It's changed not a bit in 75 years. My kid is into it. He waves bye-bye to Paul and Judy. Can you wave bye-bye to Paul and Judy? Paul and Judy will be back for your child's child. Paul will bring flowers. They will still smell fucking terrible.

Claire says

This is definitely the best book I have ever read(yes, divergent has been replaced).

J. Boo says

A classic of toddler and pre-toddlerdom. The very young love it.

I am moved to review (in Jul 2016) because I bought a new edition for DS#2 (age 1) and it's better quality than his older one (or ones - how quickly a sleep deprived parent's memory fades). How often does that happen, these days? Pages seem tougher and Judy's book-inside-a-book is no longer made from flimsy rippable paper.

Jul 2018: The "comb" that serves as the binding is and was a weak spot. Too late for some copies of this book (we've gone through at least one per child) but I've seen people use yarn to tie it back together.

Most of one-year-old DD#2's original copy survives, but we went ahead and purchased the larger-sized Special Edition for her anyway. In addition to being significantly bigger, it also includes two features which were in the 1940s version but were dropped later. The child can rattle a button box, and there's a dolly which has a ball that one can squeak (with some difficulty). It's easy to see why these two features are not in the typical modern presentation: they're just not as good as the peek-a-boo, stick-your-finger-in-the-ring and so on. It's nice that they're there, but DD#2 doesn't spend the same amount of time grappling with them as she does with the others.

Jeremy says

Bunnies disgust me.

Fox says

Pat the Bunny is the book that most of us remember growing up with. I had no idea it had been around since 1940, but I imagine that since its first publication every subsequent generation has experienced it in some form. The reason it is such a classic? Its beautiful simplicity. The book blends easy language with tactile enrichment. While the book is simple, its scope automatically deepens with the layers the young reader can delve into. It is a book to be read, touched, smelled, and heard. It's a book, but also an experience. How can a child get bored?

I can remember the soft bunny and stroking it with the turn of a page. I remember the day my finger no longer fit quite so well through the mother's ring, and how my own dad's face was just as scratchy as the one in the book. I can remember being so happy when I could read Judy's book on my own, though my first experience of *reading* was Hop on Pop. I still remember the joy this book brought into my life

In short, this book is a classic and I never see it losing that status. Simplicity and tactile pleasure are a

winning combination in any children's book, and in my life this was the book I first experienced that with.

Karey says

All three of my children went through a couple of copies of Pat the Bunny until they were tattered and torn. It is a wonderfully tactile book that gives every excuse to snuggle up with a child. That is the true language of a children's book: the language of love that passes between a parent and child. It has very little to do with words.

Mimi says

This was really sweet, and encourages interaction between child and book. Awesome.

The kids in our family are a bit too old for this already, but now I'm hoping for a new addition to the family, so I'll have an excuse to go buy this book...

Chris Van Dyke says

I don't know if one can review this book. It's Pat The Bunny. You get to pat the bunny. How cool is that? All the activities in the book are things kids do -- except patting the bunny. Is that a normal childhood activity, patting bunnies? I don't remember patting that many bunnies. Well, we did own Marshmallow (or Thumabalina, depending on which kid you asked -- there'd been a disagreement over who had the right to name the rabbit), but we didn't pat it all that often. Bunnies aren't that friendly. And if you look at it for a while, the bunny in Pat the Bunny is sort of freaky looking. And why is the entire book called "Pat the Bunny" when the bunny gets one page? Why isn't it called "Touch Dad's Scratchy Face?" Okay, that book wouldn't be a kid's classic sixty years later. Especially because that page looks like "Touch Dad's Scratchy Birthmark." but tactile books are always great when you're super tiny, and this is the classic.

Fun note -- my partner logged onto Amazon the other day, and thanks to her wildly divergent wish-list, was recommended "Pat the Bunny" and "Pedagogy of the Oppressed." I think there's a message in there somewhere, something with neo-colonial attitude towards animals, but I'll leave that for another time. . .

Arielle Walker says

Ohmygoodness, I remember reading this with my brother when he was only... maybe one? At least 14 years ago now - how is that possible?!

Kari says

Three things I love about this book:

1. The smell of the flowers
2. The weird retro look of the family
3. How my daughter reacts to the book: Examples:

Instead of patting the bunny, she PRESSES it really hard. She delights in playing peek-a-boo with Paul. Oh, and she says that "daddy" looks like me, her mommy.

Tukunjil Nayeera says

Lovely lil book! ^_^

Tiffany PSquared says

There are several books that trigger memories of my youth. This is one of those books. And the amazing thing about this book is that a copy has managed to make it into the household of every new baby that comes into our family. Pat the Bunny is definitely a nursery room standard.

Sara says

I did not own a Pat the Bunny book (that I remember, anyway) but I believe I had nieces and nephews with this book. I love this book. I've spent time in bookstores patting the bunny.
