



The Fantastic Adventures of Krishna

Demi

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When a peaceful kingdom is overtaken by an evil demon, the Gods send the child Krishna to the rescue. Hidden amongst the poor and peaceful cow-herds, his amazing powers can't stay hidden from the evil demon King for long, and soon he is under attack from giant birds, a whirlwind demon, and a snake eight miles long. Will Krishna be able to defeat the evil demon King and save the people from his terrible reign? Find out in The Fantastic Adventures of Krishna.

The story of Krishna dates to around the 8th century BCE, and forms an integral part of Hinduism, the world's oldest living and third largest religion, with over 1 billion believers.

The Fantastic Adventures of Krishna Details

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Author : Demi

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From Reader Review The Fantastic Adventures of Krishna for online ebook

Emilia P says

I always ooh and ah over Demi's book covers, but until now I've yet to sit down and read one through). Finally! Thank you, NetGalley!

This is a rich, colorful, wild, yet simple and understandable (or as simple as a Hindu legend can be!) retelling of the Krishna legend, for an audience unfamiliar to the story, without over-telling or over-contextualizing. Which, frankly, is the mark of a great story and more importantly, a great-story-teller. Furthermore, it hearkens to Hindu artistic traditions while keeping the look clean and straightforward -- a great artistic introduction as well! If/when I have babies, I may try to start a Demi Library to get them on board the mythology/world religions/art/historical/cultural awareness train - though, admittedly, the first book in it will be Joan of Arc! And what a train that will be.

Patricia McLaughlin says

This picture-book biography of Krishna introduces adventures of the god-child and prankster but overemphasizes the battle with the evil demon king (Kamsa), neglecting to show how Krishna became known as the Hindu god of compassion, tenderness, and love. Unfortunate centerfold placement of the detailed illustrations drastically dilutes their beauty and effectiveness.

Vidya Tiru says

My thoughts: Beautiful illustrations and simple text tell the story of one of the most loved and popular gods of India – Krishna – the flute playing, demon slaying, and beloved cowherd. Having grown up listening to, seeing, and reading these stories, I was not sure of what to expect. This book does justice to both the richness of Indian folk art in its illustrations and to the story of Krishna – told in a simplified fashion to appeal to younger audiences who are new to this story. An epic retold well and one that will inspire kids to read more of Krishna's wonderful adventures.

The illustrations in this book are worth framing!

My kids' thoughts: Love reading about Krishna.

Rating: A

Reading Level: 4 to 10 years

Reread Level: 4/5

Disclaimer: Thank you to NetGalley for sending me a digital review copy of the book. I was not compensated

for my review. My thoughts on the book were in no way influenced by the author or publicist. They are my personal opinions formed when I read the book.

Sandi Widner says

A 5 star review for "The Fantastic Adventures of Krishna" by Demi

"The Fantastic Adventures of Krishna" tells the enchanting tale of the child Krishna, who is sent by the God Vishnu to aid humanity. Hidden amongst the poor cowherds, Krishna uses his miraculous powers to fight an evil demon king who has overthrown the peaceful kingdom of Mathura. The story of Krishna, dating to the 8th century BC, and forming an integral part of Hinduism, is beautifully brought to life by award-winning author and illustrator, Demi.

Dear Readers: Author/illustrator Demi retells the tale of how Lord Vishnu, the greatest of all the gods, came to Earth as a child, Krishna, in order to destroy all the evil demon kings and bring peace once again to the Earth. The stories begin with his astounding escape as an infant from evil King Kamsa's prison and his adoption into a cowherd family, then continue with tales of Krishna's naughty childhood, phenomenal strength, and miraculous powers. Each spread contains centered paintings framed by finely detailed, colorful, and ornate borders set against a pale beige backdrop. More visually arresting than plot driven, this compilation of stories is appropriate for Ages 4–8.

duchesskenni says

Beautifully Illustrated

Full disclosure: I have a very rudimentary knowledge of Hindu religion and religious texts, mostly from reading the Bhagavad Gita as a freshman in college. So, I do know that Krishna is one of the avatars of the god Vishnu, but not much beyond that.

Therefore, I cannot critique the authenticity of the story in the book, but I did enjoy the illustrations, which is mostly influencing my rating. At first, I was wondering if the story was too violent for children, referring to my own childhood. However, as a young child, I was allowed to read a very graphically written and illustrated account of Spaniards in the New World, which did not have any negative impact. I would say know the maturity level of the child before you give this book to them. Nevertheless, I recommend it for at least a second or third grade classroom library.

I am always looking for interesting multicultural books to add to a classroom library and I think this book, with its beautiful illustrations, is a good choice.

(review for NetGalley)

Heather says

Had to take off a star, because I found there to be some layout and design problems which made the book less prized. There was a lot of dead space on the side bar and I am not a fan of illustrations being split on 2 pages. The scale could have adjusted for some or the publisher should have requested more illustrations and story to fill up the space. It has beautiful illustrations, but not as avant-garde as I would have expected given other reviews. The story was simple and straightforward enough for someone very young, but it lacked a bit. There could have been more story or detail, that wouldn't be lost on a little one. In general it was a pleasant educational read with enjoyable illustrations.

Received the book for free through Goodreads First Reads.

Jessica Bingham says

Demi can do no wrong in my opinion. The illustrations are beautiful!! This is a simple retelling of the story of Krishna, which perfect for young children. Krishna was sent by the gods to rescue humanity from the evil kings on earth. The earthly King Ugrasena was imprisoned. Krishna was taken from his birth parents and given into the care of two cowherders, named Yashoda and Nanda. Through out his youth, the evil King Kamsa sent many demons to kill Krishna, but he always prevailed. Krishna eventually frees the good king Ugrasena from his prison and tells the people that "Everything I have done has been for the peace of the world." After that Krishna went all over the world helping people and teaching them how to live together peacefully.

Belinda says

Stunning. I am not familiar with this author but came across this in the Mythology section of the library and being the Krishna fanatic I am, I had to read it. Wow is it gorgeous. A great way of laying out some of the many amazing myths of Lord Krishna and his deeds of goodness. Each page is laid out in an absolutely stunning way, gold edged with little touches of gold leaf on various places (jewelry etc). The art has the feel of traditional Indian art but with a little of the author's own style thrown in and best of all--done in mixed media. It makes the book like a beautiful puzzle box looking at all of the various mediums used as well as reading the well loved stories of Krishna stealing the butter, defeating demons and generally being amazing. Highly recommend for both kids and lovers of beautiful books.

Holly Scudero says

A long time ago, the land of India was a peaceful place, ruled by good King Ugrasena. But then he was overthrown by a demon king named Kamsa, who had the good king thrown in prison. To combat this evil, the great god Vishnu was reborn on earth in the form of a child named Krishna. Kamsa knew who Krishna was and tried hard to kill him; he sent demon after demon to destroy Krishna, but Krishna was able to use his powers to defeat each one. But when the time comes for Krishna to defeat the evil Kamsa and return peace to the land, would he emerge victorious?

Introduce your little ones to the stories of Krishna with "The Fantastic Adventures of Krishna," written and

illustrated by Demi. This delightful picture book condenses these classic tales into a version more easily understood by children, and is accompanied vibrant illustrations that kids will be pleased by. This book is a wonderful way to introduce your youngest readers to the tales of Krishna, and the simplified tale of good versus evil will keep them eagerly turning the pages until the end.

This review originally written for San Francisco Book Review.

Shelli says

A peaceful kingdom, ruled by Ugrasena, has been overthrown by an evil demon. The gods, wanting to assist but apparently enjoy the long game, send a new child to eventually overthrow the tyrannical villain. A strange read for Demi, who usually writes more insightful material on famous people, gods or myths.

Suzanne says

This is a good introduction to the mythology surrounding Krishna, Vishnu and the rest of their pantheon. Demi's books are always interesting and well illustrated. This one is no exception; I especially liked the way the illustrations were done in a style to reflect the culture of the story. Krishna triumphs against every demon sent to harm those around him or to kill him. Even when he is a small child his size doesn't prevent him from finding a way to beat each foe. There is plenty of action to keep your attention, even though you can guess how it will end long before you ever reach the last page. I would recommend this to anyone interested in world religions and mythology, or anyone who enjoys stories like "Clash of the Titans."

Stacie says

Continuing with this evening's "blue theme" - a story of Krishna. What is wonderful about a book by Demi is that the illustrations look like her work AND the art of the culture of her protagonist. And speaking of protagonists, is it just me, or is Superman just a modern version of the Krishna story? Similar fashion sense, similar superpowers, similar love of humanity. Neat!

Margaret Chind says

As a Christian I am not very familiar with Hindu deities, but I have heard of Krishna, and now through the words and beautiful artistry of Demi I can read and share this story of a Hindu savior with my children. Lately we have been adding more and more Demi picture books to our shelves for the biographies and they are enchanting. The blues of Krishna and the golds used are fabulous to look at and the story is well put together. I definitely want to add a physical copy of this one to our shelf.

I read this through an electronic galley, but I am positive in person it will only impress me more.

post scheduled: <http://creativemadnessmama.com/blog/2...>

Sarah Karl says

I always enjoy Demi's illustrations in books, just as this one. I would use this in my classroom to teach and discuss multicultural topics.

Kathryn (Nine Pages) says

The Fantastic Adventures of Krishna, of which I won a copy through Goodreads, is an interpretation of the stories of living religion, one with a long, rich history. Let it be said that I know and respect that and that I hope I can review this picture book without offense. Certainly I mean to give none.

When I speak of the text I mean strictly what has been printed on the pages of this book and not the tradition of which it is an interpretation.

For once, I am here perhaps more qualified to speak of the illustrations than of the text. In high school, AP Art History kicked my butt, and I kicked and bit Art History back till we were both black and blue but I held up my high score. We parted enemies, but several years later on a crowded train platform, we're cordial to one another. I might even smile at Art History, and we might take a moment to reminisce. My independent project was a brief history of Indian art. The illustrations of The Fantastic Adventures of Krishna are more than drawings for a children's book; they are iconic depictions of the story of the Hindu god Krishna. In fact, at least some of Demi's illustrations are reinterpretations of older Pahari illustrations.

If Demi has simplified the illustrations to cater to her young audience, she has reflected the Kangra intricacy in her frames (an example of which can be seen on her illustration of Krishna and the wildfire).

Demi's pages are touched by gold paint that heightens their iconic feel and also made for a pleasant surprise upon opening the book for the first time.

The images that she paints both with her illustrations and with the text is of an endearing child, sweet, playful, mischievous, and reckless bold in the face of danger to his friends. Krishna (and here I speak of the character and not the god) is a relatable figure to Demi's young audience.

Apart from loving mythology of many cultures and the intricate art of India, I think it important to raise globally aware children. Demi's is a book that can be enjoyed by children of any culture. I would be interested to read this book to young children. I wonder how they would respond. Certainly I think most children would wonder about Krishna's blue skin. I don't honestly know the proper response to that, other than it is an artistic shorthand, like Moses' horns or the accompanying animals of the four Christian gospel writers. At my age too, Demi's is a book to inspire conversation with a different culture.

Review originally published on my blog: <http://550wordsorless.wordpress.com/2013/07/27/the-fantastic-adventures-of-krishna/> Examples of the illustrations alongside similar Indian artwork can be found there.
