



Spartan and The Green Egg: A Trip to the Rainforest

Nabila Khashoggi

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Spartan, his three friends, and his dog, Grimm, as they travel the Universe. The mission of this talented team is to gain and share knowledge of their amazing discoveries. With the power of their minds, they made contact with a race of alien explorers, who communicate with them via an egg-shaped spaceship that is itself an organic alien being. Their expeditions are made even more exciting through the use of new technology and cool gadgets, provided by their new friend, who goes by the name of Egg.

In Book 1, A Trip to the Rainforest, the team's introduction to the rainforest and all its wonders is made even more fun by the company of two native Amazonian Indians. Their extraordinary visit is not without a few close calls. After an eye-opening experience with a mysterious Shaman, their own troubles seem to pale in comparison to what they learn. The rainforest is in danger of vanishing, and all its creatures and plant life are at risk of extinction. With the help of the Green Egg's out-of-this-world technology, the team is able to put a big dent into the path of destruction and re-new hope for the survival of the rainforest.

Spartan and The Green Egg: A Trip to the Rainforest Details

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Author : Nabila Khashoggi

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From Reader Review Spartan and The Green Egg: A Trip to the Rainforest for online ebook

M.M. Hudson says

Recently I was asked to review the book Spartan and The Green Egg by Nabila Khashoggi. I thought it would be an interesting book to review due to my love of nature. I was not disappointed.

This hard cover book is the first in a series for Ms. Khashoggi. The story opens with the main character Spartan and his three friends, meet up in the tree club house. Spartan proceeds to tell the group about a book he has received that mentions how to contact aliens.

The group collectively decides, through the use of the power of imagination, that they will indeed contact aliens from outer space. They create the look of their spaceship and where they want to go.

Through great concentration they end up having an alien in a green egg appear.

This green egg is actually their spaceship which take them to the Amazon Rainforest. They have a few bumps along the way which could put them in danger.

However, there they meet Amazonian kids who take them back to their village. Spartan and friends learn how the children live in the village. They also experience a dream through a village shaman who shows them that the Rainforest is in grave danger from people who destroy it. This could mean the end of the Amazon Rainforest and extinction of many animals.

The group decides to do something and help save the Rainforest.

Do they accomplish their task? Are they forever stuck? Will it be enough? What about that green egg alien? You decide, read the book!

This book is for the older child who can read pretty well. The books illustrations were done by Manuel Cadag and quite impressive. Usually when I have read books the illustrations are on opposite pages or sparse. This book however, was written comic book style with the illustrations and words interacting with each other. I don't know a single kid that would not like this book.

To say the least, this book is excellent and I highly recommend it. I look forward to many more books in this series.

Spartan and The Green Egg deserves my 5 stars!

~Naila Moon

Disclosure: I was given this book to review for free. The words and opinions expressed here are 100% my own.

Meshell says

Won thanks to Goodreads!

Good book, my nephew loved it. Fun, colourful and imaginative a must read for those who have children who are just starting to read.

Peter Broughton says

This book is a graphic novel aimed at children and possibly early teens. It's the story of a group of friends who through the power of their minds, make contact with an alien on a distant planet. He sends a green egg to them which is both a massively technologically advanced spaceship, but also his means of communicating with the group of friends from his home world. The group of friends then set off on their first adventure inside the green egg. On this occasion, they visit the Amazonian rainforest.

First of all me and my preferences. I'm mid 30's. I have 1 child (for now) although he's still crawling so not ready for this yet. I'm not a massive reader (which I'm well aware is weird for this site). However I do really enjoy graphic novels and I do read those pretty often. I didn't read the book with a child so it's a review from an adult male perspective.

I enjoyed the book. It took around 30 minutes (I'm not the quickest) to read the whole thing.

Usually the first story in a series can suffer due to explaining how the characters say gained the superpowers or in this case, made contact with the alien being. I didn't feel that with this book. By page 15, the characters have made contact, got in the ship and they're off on their adventure!

The book is educational in that it relates to the reader why trees are important "we breathe in what the trees breathe out and the trees breathe in what we breathe out" and then the characters learn about replacing the trees that are cut down and that you need to do it with the same type of trees. Plus once more the why behind it. I liked this as it felt less like preaching as the why was explained at a basic level. For what is in real life a massively complex issue I think a basic level is probably the best you could do for kids.

The antagonists aren't painted too black and it is explained why they do the thing they're doing to provide a reasonably balanced viewpoint.

I really like the illustrations throughout. They're bright, colourful and fun. Neither too realistic or too cartoony. Great for kids or adults.

I didn't find many downsides personally. The reasons I gave 4/5 instead of 5/5 are these. I wasn't sure that referring to Amazonian Tribespeople as "Indians" was exactly politically correct. Although nowadays we can go a bit OTT with that sort of thing. Also, food appears to be highly abundant for the tribespeople too which I'm not sure is accurate, but as I've never met them, what do I know? Plus, having them starving in a kids book would be very depressing and possibly even distressing so again a minor issue.

The book did feel a little abrupt in it's ending for me, but I think a child would be happy with it. It certainly let the book open for the further adventures of the characters. Plus to be fair, I did feel like I want to read them as they become available. There's a good chance I will buy future adventures. A compliment in itself.

I'd be happy for my son to read it when he gets to the right level. It's bright, positive educational and would encourage him to care about the environment.

So in summary, a bright colourful and fun story, with a positive and educational message about the environment. All in all pretty good. I'm happy to recommend it.

I was provided a copy for free in return for my honest review as part of Goodreads First Reads.

Skjam! says

Disclaimer: I received this book as a Goodreads giveaway on the premise that I would review it.

Spartan, an adventurous boy, his three human friends, and his dog Grimm make contact with an alien that manifests itself in the shape of an egg. Using its vast powers, they go on exploration journeys. In this introductory volume, the kids travel to the Amazon rainforest and learn a little bit about the locals, as well as about deforestation.

This graphic novel is intended for kids about eight to ten, and the main character is named after Nabila Khashoggi's son. It's very light edutainment, with little sense of conflict or peril. The children have largely interchangeable personalities, and the Egg makes everything just a bit too easy.

I liked that the lumber company employees weren't characterized as villains, but they seem awfully superstitious and easily tricked. It also seems highly unlikely that anyone will listen to their crazy story about forest spirits, and the locals won't have an advanced alien and super technology on their side next time. On the other hand, a shaman does show the power to send bad dreams, so perhaps it will work out.

This is one book that could have done with a glossary, or a text page with more concentrated information about the Amazon.

The art is serviceable, but it's clear the artist has a lot of development potential ahead of them. The lettering is too obviously computer-generated, and takes away from the feel. One amusing bit is that three of the children, including the business suited black kid, wear swimming-suitable trunks under their clothes, despite not having planned to go swimming that day. (The fourth child's swimgear is never seen—perhaps he wears ordinary underpants.)

It's an okay introduction to the Amazon for young readers, but will leave many of them hungry for more substantial information. Consult with your local children's librarian for what might be a good follow-up book.

Jennifer says

I thought this book was great. The colors are really bold and bright. I like that it reads like a comic book because who doesn't like a good comic. Nabila takes readers on an adventure but also teaches something on the way which I found informative.

Vermicious Knids says

When I first pulled this book out and showed it to my son who is in first grade, he danced around, wanted to look at it and promised he would hurry and do his homework. He thoroughly enjoyed the book so I seriously considered rating this 5 stars for his review.

This book is a graphic novel about four kids, a dog and an alien egg that travel to the Amazon rain forest. The book teaches some beginning science and ecology concepts. If your kids like The Magic School Bus series (mine does) they probably will enjoy this and the age/reading level is likely comparable.

PROS: The COLOR in the illustrations is wonderful. Bright, eye-popping color in vivid jewel tones. It will get your kids attention - it sure got mine. In the front cover, there is a world map, with the Amazon Jungle high-lighted. We paused here first to review the continents and the setting for the story. Great idea, that.

Boys and girls are in this story and there are kids of color. My son is adopted (he calls himself brown, I am pink and his father peach) and he said about the character Max (also my son's name) "he is brown like me." At times, it is hard to find stories with kids of color (unbelievable sometimes) and my son totally loves to relate with kids that look like him in books.

The book is both imaginative and informative, a feature I adore. Yeah, figure the odds an alien egg is flying kids off to the Amazon, but Mrs. Frizzle's school bus is not any less unlikely. The 'brain' of the group talks about the symbiotic relationship between trees and humans. The children meet some Amazon natives, who are dismayed about the fracturing of this relationship because of the logging. The book gives some description about why the logging is taking place and the kids, with the help of the alien, who poses as an ancient spirit, fix the problem by replanting trees. The story is simplified, yes, but it correlates for the age group being addressed. It doesn't demonize or judge, just keeps it to the facts, with a dash of magic of course. My 1st grader is a little young to read this on his own, so we read it together and spoke of some of the issues addressed in this book.

CONS: The portrayal of the Amazon natives look a little to much like the North American natives. The buckskin-type clothes and the chief with his full war bonnet didn't ring true. I googled South American native costumes and DID find a picture of an Amazon male wearing something very similar, but there are some slight differences. Of course, there is some artistic license to consider because some of the some feathers worn are rainbow colored, but I think if they are going to represent the natives of the Amazon, the depiction should be genuine. A tribe name would have been nice instead of just 'Indians.'

All in all, this book is geared for kids and I think they will WANT to read this esp with the great colors. Read it with your child and it gives you an opportunity to review some science. We will look forward to the next installment of the series. I would recommend it for grade school children.

DISCLOSURE: I was provided a complimentary copy of this book, but be assured it is an honest review. I do not know or owe anything to the author/publisher.

Lisa says

I received this book as a Goodreads giveaway.

It took me a while to write this review because I wanted to share it with some of the kids I know to get their thoughts, but the book was a little too advanced, so I will have to base it on my own impressions.

Spartan and The Green Egg: A Trip to the Rainforest is a wonderful idea. Spartan and his friends travel to the rainforest in a alien spaceship and learn about the people of and the dangers to the rainforest. It is a cute story, though I would have preferred if it were a little more in-depth, particularly more about the customs, food, etc., of the people they visited.

I did have a number of problems with the book. First, it took a very long time to introduce the friends. All of their names should have been used in the first page or two so that the reader knows the names. Their interactions were fun and amicable, and each had their own personality, but I didn't learn one name until halfway through the book! The people of the rainforest were only referred to as "Indians" instead of telling what specific group Spartan and his friends were visiting. Finally, the loggers were depicted as a 1990s villain in one of the many environmentally aware shows and movies of that era. They were cutting down trees for no other reason than to cut down trees until Spartan and the alien scare them into more responsible stewardship. It would have been better to explain why so many trees are needed, and perhaps how the children reading the book can contribute the saving the rainforest through recycling or other means.

The book had a lot of potential, and I enjoy the art. As a story, there could have been more. More education about the ways of the people of the rainforest, and more explanation as to why the trees are cut down and what can be done to prevent it without the help of an alien egg. I will put this book aside until my eldest niece is old enough to appreciate it (she's 6), but I would have to get her opinion before looking into any other book in this series.

Sadie Forsythe says

My six year old and I read this together. She was really enamoured with the maps. In fact, it took us three tries to sit down and actually read the book because she just wanted to look at the maps and find all of the fun little treasures in them. Once we finally made it past the decorations to the actual book itself she loved the full-color comic book styling and I have to agree with her. It gave the book a little something different.

The environmental themes are ones we've all heard before, but I particularly appreciated the clarity with which replenishment was addressed. The reader is not only reminded that we (humanity) need to replace every tree we cut down, but that we need to replace them with the same or similar trees. Otherwise we'll just end up with a planet full of scrub pines. It did fail to address the loss of mature forests and the effect this has on those who live in and around the jungle, but I suppose only so much can be presented in a children's book.

I found the little bit of education about Amazonian culture to be interesting. I was a tad concerned that the pictures appeared to be fairly pan-indian, even if the text wasn't. But my daughter didn't notice.

Of course not all readers will be 6, but I found the book a bit long for a six year-old's attention span. The mental transcendentalism in the beginning also went way over her head. She kind of glazed over during that part of the book, but came back strong once the Amazon appeared and cheered for the children's accomplishments at the end. As an adult I found it all a little abrupt, but it obviously worked on a child's level. She's also spent hours just looking at the pictures to find new details in the forest scenes. Oh, and I want that tree house!!

All-in-all, the book would make a good addition to most children's libraries.

Note: I was provided a free copy of this book by the author in exchange for an honest review.

Susan says

The illustrations were wonderful. Story line was easy to follow for the kids. It would have been nice to see the children be more hands on involved with solving the issue. I would be clear with children when reading that this story is fantasy with a good environmental theme.

Jake Hainey says

A trip to the Rainforest is the first in a series of graphic novels for children, which follow the adventures of a group of children, led by the eponymous Spartan, who make contact with an Alien who offers to take the children anywhere they wish.

The book is an educational comic intended to teach children about the Rainforest and the dangers that deforestation causes, both for the wildlife and indigenous people that inhabit it.

As an educational book it works well. I can imagine children being engaged with the story. The comic book style and some of the plot elements like the alien's powers and the children banding together to re-grow the trees that the foresters are cutting down, stop it falling too much into the realm of overly preachy Edutainment.

The art is nice, even if the characters do seem to be pulling the same facial expressions in every panel. I'm not a fan of the colouring style however, it's purely personal taste but I'm not a fan of colouring that looks too digital. While the colouring is suitable for the rainforest setting with lots of rich greens and vibrant colours used for the plants and animals. There's far too much use of the burn and highlight tools which give it a cheap photoshopped feel. The green used on every page to separate the panels is also a little too garish and I'd have preferred if it was mixed up a little bit.

I must admit, I didn't enjoy this book. While I think it'd make a good read for kids, as an adult there's not much to keep you reading. This, of course, is no bad thing (it is a children's book after all) but the dialogue and story are pretty straightforward without much flourish and the characters aren't all that different from each other. I also couldn't help but wonder, if an Alien grants these children the ability to go anywhere they want...why do they go to the rainforest instead of...you know...the Alien's home world? It seems a bit of a wasted opportunity on the kids part...

If you've got small kids, by all means give this one a go. I'm sure they'd enjoy it, it's a fun colourful adventure with a good message, just don't expect there to be much to enjoy for the adults.

(This book was given to me through a GoodReads giveaway, this review is also available on

talesfromideath.blogspot.com)

Amanda Masters says

Lily says:

This book is about Spartan and his friends going on a adventure i their imaginations in the big round thing called egg.

the pictures were awesome and they were one of the best parts of the book.i like the pictures with just juma and yara because I like their regalia's and I really like the logo for the book.

My favourite part was when they met the two native children juma and yara. they were fun and I learned a lot from them about their people.

It made me sad when they where cutting down the trees but it made me laugh when they kicked the loggers butts.

I learned that you have to plant another tree every time you cut down a tree.we learned many many things about the Amazons way of life.

I think that lots of kids would like it. it's a great story with a good message and Nabila Khashoggi is a awesome writer!

Mom says:

Spartan and the Green Egg was a wonderful book full of adventure and beautiful illustrations! I felt myself completely drawn into the story as Spartan and his friends set of into the unknown.

Spartan, his three friends, and his dog, Grimm, travel the Universe. The mission of this talented team is to gain and share knowledge of their amazing discoveries.

Their expeditions are made even more exciting through the use of new technology and cool gadgets, provided by their new friend, who goes by the name of Egg.

In This book A Trip to the Rainforest, the team's introduction to the rainforest and all its wonders is made even more fun by the company of two Native Amazonian Indians who introduce them to their way of life.

This is an amazing book for kids! my daughter was so excited when she laid eyes on the book and the Illustrations she couldn't wait to begin reading it and when she did you could see her imagination light in her eyes and could see she was drawn into the story just as I was!

I loved that the story was Native in origin as well. It had amazing messages and being Native ourselves it was really special to us! We loved learning about the Amazonians and their traditions and we talked about how similar they were and how different from our own people.

The ending was superb as well and we laughed at the loggers as they were so scared and wished it could

happen in real life! as we have been to protests to stop them from cutting our forests down but to no avail we need EGG!

You have written such a wonderful and inspiring book Nabila! and we can not wait to read your next one!

if you all haven't read this DO SO NOW! One of the greatest kids books one the shelf!

Athena Nagel says

This was a terrific book. The premise of the children (Explorers) using their imagination and having it take them to some great places is terrific. I also love that the story has a message - a global message even. Protect what you use and replace what you take. The illustrations are masterful and colorful. The style is that of a comic book type flow and perhaps that is the feature I most strongly like. My son has special needs and it is often difficult to get him to try to read. But he loves comic books. This book grabbed his attention right away - as soon as I opened it. The rule is he can have books after I review them but this one couldn't wait - I had to "wait my turn". This was the first Spartan book but there is already a second one and another on the way. I would love to continue to follow the explorers on their adventures and see what other imaginative trips they take and what they can change in the world. I give this book 5 stars and will be following Nabila for future editions.

I received a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

Lucinda says

An exciting educational adventure story that's an imaginative visionary masterpiece!

Spartan and the green egg is a must-have for any child's bookshelf, as it is great fun and is essentially educational as well as enjoyable. It is a children's fantasy adventure in the style of a comic book, containing pictures and maps. This book in the form of a brightly colored, eye-catching graphic novel this easy-to-read story will appeal to the younger reader in addition to those being introduced to *reading for pleasure*. **I feel strongly that it is incredibly important to encourage children to read, as it broadens their imaginations by introducing them to the wonders of the written word.** This brilliant book does just that by transporting you to tropical paradises and breathtaking places, which are filled with the extraordinary and the alien. With a clear environmental message this enlightening tale will illuminate and inspire many youngsters, therefore it is something that I would recommend to primary schools too.

Spartan and the green egg is an adventure that takes you to the heart of the Rainforest, wherein you will experience an amazing journey filled with new discoveries and learn important facts. Author Nabila Khashoggi has created something that is not only visually appealing and attractive to look at on the shelf and while reading, but most significantly of all a story containing thought-provoking inner meaning and noteworthy connotation. It is the environmental and political messages that really stands-out within such an original book, being the main element that would make this book appeal greatly to adults and parents. The genius concept of the space-changing and time-travelling green egg in addition to the powerful green spirit was just brilliant.

Beautifully bound and published this delightful book is one that I can see flying off the shelves and which leaves me hoping that Spartan and his friends will have many more adventures! I am very impressed by this

satisfying story for 6 year olds (6-10 yr old target readership I would say), and so I would recommend it to the young child reader without hesitation.

3.5 stars!

I won a copy of Nabila Khashoggi's book 'Spartan and the green egg' through a Goodreads, first-read book giveaway

For more information ~ www.spartanandthegreenegg.com

Donald Armfield says

I received this book for review purpose, trying to read a graphic novel to your kids I find a little tricky.

The story is about Spartan and his friends. They go on an adventure to a rain forest and discover and learn wonderful things. Kinda reminds me of the show "Little Einsteins"

The artwork is a cutesy anime very colorful, and the whole book is made from recycled papers. Good for childrens beginning in graphic novel reading.

Jalynn Patterson says

About the Book:

Spartan, his three friends, and his dog, Grimm, as they travel the Universe. The mission of this talented team is to gain and share knowledge of their amazing discoveries. With the power of their minds, they made contact with a race of alien explorers, who communicate with them via an egg-shaped spaceship that is itself an organic alien being. Their expeditions are made even more exciting through the use of new technology and cool gadgets, provided by their new friend, who goes by the name of Egg. In Book 1, A Trip to the Rainforest, the team's introduction to the rainforest and all its wonders is made even more fun by the company of two native Amazonian Indians. Their extraordinary visit is not without a few close calls. After an eye-opening experience with a mysterious Shaman, their own troubles seem to pale in comparison to what they learn. The rainforest is in danger of vanishing, and all its creatures and plant life are at risk of extinction. With the help of the Green Egg's out-of-this-world technology, the team is able to put a big dent into the path of destruction and re-new hope for the survival of the rainforest.

About the Author:

Mother to Spartan and Layth, lives in New York with her family.

My Review:

The imagination is a powerful thing as we see in the recently released in the first book of the series Spartan& the Green Egg, A Trip to the Rainforest. In this first installment to the series we meet Spartan, his three friends; Max, Tor, & Kattie and Spartan begins the story telling his friends about this book his dad got for him. The book tells you how to contact aliens from outer space. So the children following the instructions in the book, decide to take this on to see if its true. And before long they are taken on an adventure they will

never forget.

The author takes us on a fascinating journey through the rainforest to teach us a little more about it and how its plant and animal are being depleted almost daily. Follow along as this unique group of caring children travel to the Amazon. With colorful pictures and alot of information we can imagine that we are there too!

****Disclosure**** This book was sent to me free of charge for my honest review from the author.
