



# Duck and Hippo: The Secret Valentine

*Jonathan London , Andrew Joyner (Illustrations)*

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**Duck and Hippo: The Secret Valentine** Jonathan London , Andrew Joyner (Illustrations)

**Join Duck, Hippo, and their friends as they uncover their secret valentines!**

It's Valentine's Day, and something curious is going on. As the birds tweet their love songs, Hippo and his friends Elephant, Pig, and Turtle each receive mysterious, unsigned Valentine's Day cards. Hippo wonders if his is from Duck; Elephant and Turtle think theirs are from Pig; and Pig dreams that hers is from Turtle. The cards tell the friends to come to the park at four o'clock to meet their valentines—so they'll find out soon enough! As the clock ticks away, the friends wonder—and dream—about their valentines and make special preparations. But when they arrive...SURPRISE!

This Valentine's Day might not go exactly the way they expected, but one thing is certain: being friends with Duck and Hippo is always a special treat!

## Duck and Hippo: The Secret Valentine Details

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Author : Jonathan London , Andrew Joyner (Illustrations)

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## From Reader Review Duck and Hippo: The Secret Valentine for online ebook

### Baby Bookworm says

Hello, friends! Our book today is Duck and Hippo: The Secret Valentine, written by Jonathan London and illustrated by Andrew Joyner, the latest in the delightful Duck and Hippo series.

As Valentine's Day approaches, Duck is a little bummed to realize that she doesn't have a valentine of her own – but that quickly transitions into a fun idea! Stealthily sneaking around town, she leaves anonymous invitations for her best friends – Hippo, Turtle, Pig, and Elephant – to meet their secret Valentine in the park at 4 o'clock. The friends are delighted and excitedly prepare to meet up. When they all arrive, however, they are surprised to see each other, and no one else waiting! They puzzle for a moment until Duck appears, presenting them with a picnic and some good company – after all, the best Valentines are friends!

Very cute! All the hallmarks of the previous Duck and Hippo books are back, from the innocent, playful storyline and dialogue to Joyner's classic storybook-inspired illustrations. There's an odd moment in which the reader gets the sense of Pig being slightly catfished by her "secret admirer" – she sings "I'm so in loooooove!" as she prepares for the meetup – but otherwise the story is gentle, and sends a nice message about the importance of appreciating our friendships. The length was great, and JJ loved it – Baby Bookworm approved!

(Note: A copy of this books was provided the The Baby Bookworm by a representative of the author in exchange for an honest review.)

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### Kristi Bernard says

Duck wants to celebrate Valentine's day, but he doesn't have a valentine. Hippo, Elephant, Turtle and Pig all have a busy day. Hippo found a valentine invite on his doorstep, Turtle found one on a lily pad, Pig had one under her pizza shop door and Elephant had one in his mailbox. Each of the busy friends took the time to find something nice for their valentine. Each friend needed to be at the park at a specific time. All were excited and all wondered if Duck would be there. Do you think it was Duck as the secret valentine?

This heartfelt story of friendship and sharing is just the story to get kids honoring friends and learning to share. Beginner readers will find this story easy to read and eager to turn the page. Colorful illustrations are lively and share the excitement of the story. Parents, teachers and caregivers can use this as a tool to teach the Valentine holiday and how to love one another.

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### Eric says

Can you find duck on every page?

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### **Kaitlyn Rozeboom says**

Duck and Hippo: The Secret Valentine is a sweet picture book explaining the importance of Valentine's Day. This book does an excellent job of showing relationships between complete opposites. In this story, the Duck and Hippo are best friends. Duck does not get a Valentine's Day card from any friends and so Duck sends everyone else a secret invitation to meet up. When they all meet up, Duck shows the importance of spending time with the ones we love. The message is that friends are very important and that spending time with them is necessary. I like this book because it addresses a message we need to send to the little people in our lives. When we teach them to grow up loving and spending time with friends, it can prevent bullying.

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### **Tammy S Mitchell says**

Him  
Hmmm

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### **Megan says**

Animal friends find Valentines on their doorsteps.

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### **Stacie says**

Duck and Hippo are the best of friends, but when Duck realized he didn't receive a Valentine on Valentine's Day, he came up with a plan. Hippo, Elephant, Pig, and Turtle all receive mysterious invitations to come to the park at 4:00. The friends all wonder who may have sent them this Valentine and who they will meet at the park. As the day goes on, each of them begins to get ready trying to guess who sent them the Valentine. When they arrive at the park, they all get a big surprise.

I love the message and lessons that the Duck and Hippo stories share with kids. They have an unusual friendship, but they take care of and help each other out. Valentine's Day seems to be about candy and gifts but Duck teaches all of us a lesson that the most important thing is spending time with the people we love.

Joyner's illustrations are wonderful. When the animals receive their invitations, the surprise is clear on their faces. Tiny birds help with the delivery of the Valentine's and little ones will love finding them on the pages as they watch as the animals get ready to come to the party. Duck offers a wonderful explanation for kids about what Valentine's Day is about. This series is sure to be a classic just like London's Froggy series and will be much loved by kids.

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### **Susan says**

Thank you to #blueslipmedia and #twolionspublishing for the free review copy of this book. All opinions are my own.

Once the December holidays are over and the new year begins, the most often asked question in an elementary library is “Where are the Valentine’s books?” and then the next one is “Are all of the Valentine’s books checked out?” I hated to see those disappointed faces, so I was always searching for new Valentine picture books with great stories and colorful illustrations to add to the collection. Duck and Hippo: The Secret Valentine fills that need perfectly!

This is the latest addition to the delightful Duck and Hippo series. The heartwarming story is about friendship, thoughtfulness and kindness, as well as a little bit of mystery which makes it even more of a joy to share with your little ones. I loved the cheery illustrations and the expressive faces on all of Duck and Hippo’s friends as they put on their best clothes, packaged up their most thoughtful gifts and set out to discover the answer to the mysterious Valentines each had received.

This book is available now and would make a perfect surprise for your family on Valentine’s Day! And if your kids would like to learn how to draw Duck and Hippo, be sure and visit <https://www.andrewjoyner.com.au/activ...>

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### **Heidi says**

As with the other books in the Duck and Hippo series, this book provides a sweet story with adorable illustrations. When Hippo, Turtle, Elephant, and Pig get anonymous valentine's that invite them to the park at 4 o'clock, they each hope it's their best friend. And while things turn out differently than they expect, they still have a wonderful Valentine's Day. Young readers will figure out very quickly who the mysterious valentine giver is from the beginning of the story, but also from the illustrations. They will have a good time spotting the mysterious giver in each of the delivery illustrations. And the theme of friendship is a universal one that all children should appreciate.

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### **Clwseattle says**

Cute!! The Secret Valentine is my first *Duck and Hippo* book. The illustrations are fun and very expressive.

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### **Aeicha says**

It’s Valentine’s Day and Hippo, Turtle, Pig, and Elephant receive unsigned cards inviting them to the park to meet their Valentine...but just who are these mystery Valentines and who sent the cards?!

Lovable Duck and Hippo are back for another charming and fun picture book story in The Secret Valentine! Once again, Jonathan London offers little readers a sweetly amusing tale about Duck and Hippo, two unlikely opposites who happen to be best friends. Little readers will giggle as they watch each character get ready for the Valentine’s Day party in the park, happily excited that, unlike the characters, they know who the mystery card sender is. Andrew Joyner brings the story to life through his joyful, colorful illustrations, so full of fun, heart, and humor.

The Secret Valentine is a heartwarming celebration of love, friendship, and kindness that is perfect for read-aloud story time this Valentine’s Day!

### **Amy (Lost in a Good Book) says**

A tad disappointed because I thought it was going to be about cute book about Duck and Hippo being in love and when that didn't happen I thought maybe a long twisted tale about all the animals being in love with each other but it is simply a sweet story about friendship. Which is good too, I guess.

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### **Mrs Mommy Booknerd <http://mrsmommybooknerd.blogspot.com> says**

A darling book about friendship, fun and Valentine's Day. I adore the characters and how brilliantly illustrated they are, as they come to life on the page. This book highlights how doing something special (and as a surprise) for those you love makes your heart happy and brings joy to those you love!!! Your children will love reading this book both solo and as listening to is as a read-a-long. It is the sweetest book ever and one you will want to read over and over again!!

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### **Janet Cooke says**

A very sweet little story with the benefit of a message that (sadly) we need to send to ever younger human beings. Friends are VERY important. True friends are much more important than any relationship other than family, and sometimes friends win the competition of family ties.

A party in the park is planned in the timely release of a story about Valentine's Day.

The speculation that surrounds this party is great fun for a little one and the adult helper in the read.

Buy it or borrow it, but for sure READ IT TO A LOVIE.

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### **Ricki says**

*Duck and Hippo: The Secret Valentine* by Jonathan London is the latest book in the adorable Duck and Hippo series. These two have found a place in my heart alongside other favorites like Frog and Toad. The characters each receive a valentine with the same message to meet in the park. But who could have sent it?

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