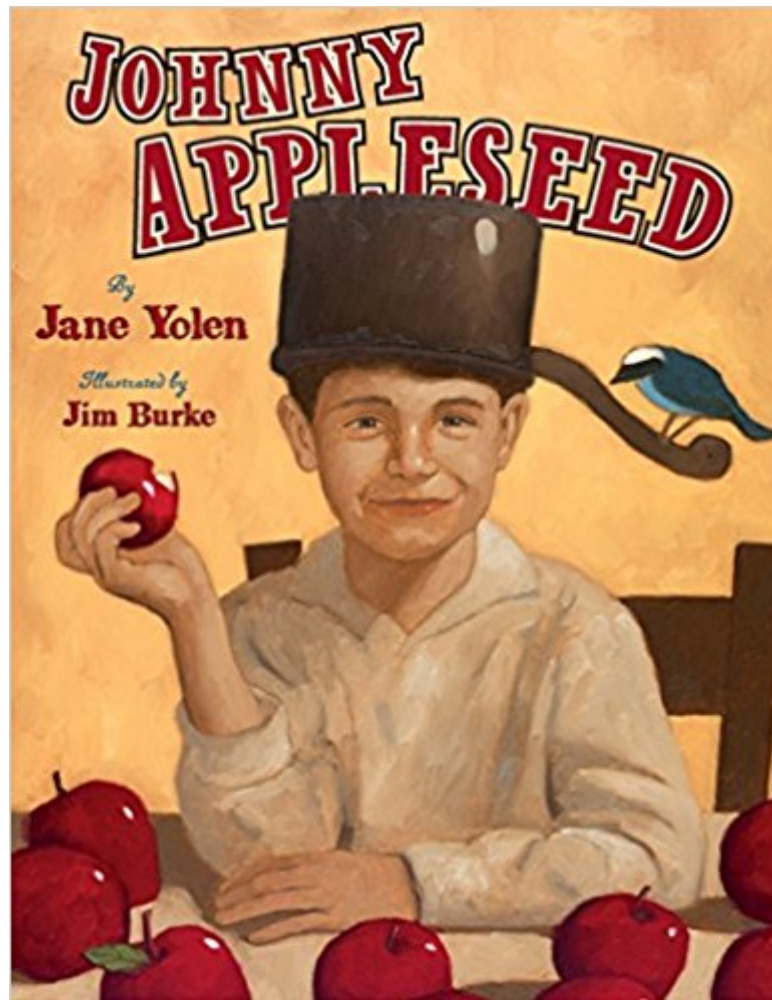




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Johnny Appleseed: The Legend And The Truth



Synopsis

Planting trees is quite an art. He plants the apples with his heart. Johnny, Johnny Appleseed. Everyone knows the legend of Johnny Appleseed, the man from Massachusetts who planted apple trees all the way to California. But the true story of Johnny Appleseed, or John Chapman, is even greater than the legend. In deft and lyrical prose, Jane Yolen tells the whole story of an individual who forever changed the landscape of America. Breathtaking paintings by award-winning artist Jim Burke illuminate the historical detail of this man's life while capturing all the magic and mystery of his legend.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 8 customer reviews

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Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

Customer Reviews

Grade 2-4 Yolen relates both fact and legend in this brief biographical piece about John Chapman, known best as Johnny Appleseed. Against each double-page painting, the text is set in a creamy rectangular box that has the appearance of a frayed-edge leaf torn from an old book. At the top is a rhyming quatrain followed by the refrain, "Johnny, Johnny Appleseed" (e.g., "Learns to write,/Learns to read,/First word he pens/Is apple seed./Johnny, Johnny Appleseed"). Information about Chapman's life appears under the verses; it details his growing desire to travel west, his love of nature, and his interactions with Native Americans and settlers. Tidbits about Chapman, his family, his travels, and the heritage he left are also included. While sources are mentioned for a few

of these facts, there are no source notes or acknowledgments for most of the seemingly factual information related here. Burke's thickly painted illustrations in rich hues of greens and browns, blues and yellows range from folk style to several realistic portraits and one lifelike study of an open pair of hands holding apple seeds. An author's note adds some details of legends that spread about Chapman's feats and his unusual lifestyle. Will Moses's *Johnny Appleseed: The Story of a Legend* (Philomel, 2001), written in the rambling style of an old yarn, is filled with verified factual details of Chapman's life and includes a bibliography. Gwennyth Swain's *Johnny Appleseed* (Carolrhoda, 2001), written in easy-reader format, includes both a chronology and bibliography.â Susan Scheps, Shaker Heights Public Library, OH Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

In this comely, homespun picture-book biography, Yolen assembles the fact and fiction surrounding America's favorite orchardist into a tale both substantive and lyrical. Successive two-page spreads conform to a careful organizational structure. Set on backgrounds that look like weathered pieces of parchment, each block of text features a stanza of verse that celebrates legend and a segment of history, wherein the author shares the truth beneath the myth. At the bottom of the page, a short note, THE FACT, elucidates the story, often citing sources and quoting primary material. By strictly maintaining her tight format, Yolen holds together the multiple narratives, offering a product that works both as colorful yarn and biographical study. Similarly, Burke's striking paintings conform to a natural, yarn-dyed palette of apple reds, forest greens, meadow golds, and midnight blues, echoing Yolen's piecework approach to the exposition with a subtle quilt motif. The reader, cradled in the boughs of such careful craftsmanship, is left with a story as sweet and nutritious as the fruit Johnny Appleseed sowed. Grades K-3. --Thom Barthelmess --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Arrive quickly. Thank you. The book itself is a little dry for little guys (2nd grade). I read it over a few days. It is good to compare and contrast between fact and fiction.

My 5 yr old Grandson asked me for a book on Johnny Appleseed, "You know, Grandma, he was a REAL PERSON!" This book helped him to know the difference between a myth and the truth. It was not so complicated he couldn't understand it and it went to show-and-tell, he was so proud to have the "Truth" book!

A Good read for your starting reader. Our 6 year old loved it and enjoyed illustrations. Story of Johnny Apple Seed was informative.

The second graders enjoyed the story/information as much as they enjoyed the beautiful illustrations.

The book was great!

very good . I am very happy and excited about this product. It looks good, feels real, and cuts very well. I definitely think the product is of good quality for the low price. In other words, you get a good product for the price you are paying for. Definitely recommended! for my husband, very good. so fast, receive it next day ,

Yolen cleverly combines the legend and the man by introducing a bit of the legend and following it with factual information. Together the two narratives: Johnny Appleseed/John Chapman provide a vivid portrait of this celebrated American icon. Burke's richly colored folk art inspired artwork is a wonderful addition to the text.

Great book about Johnny Appleseed.

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