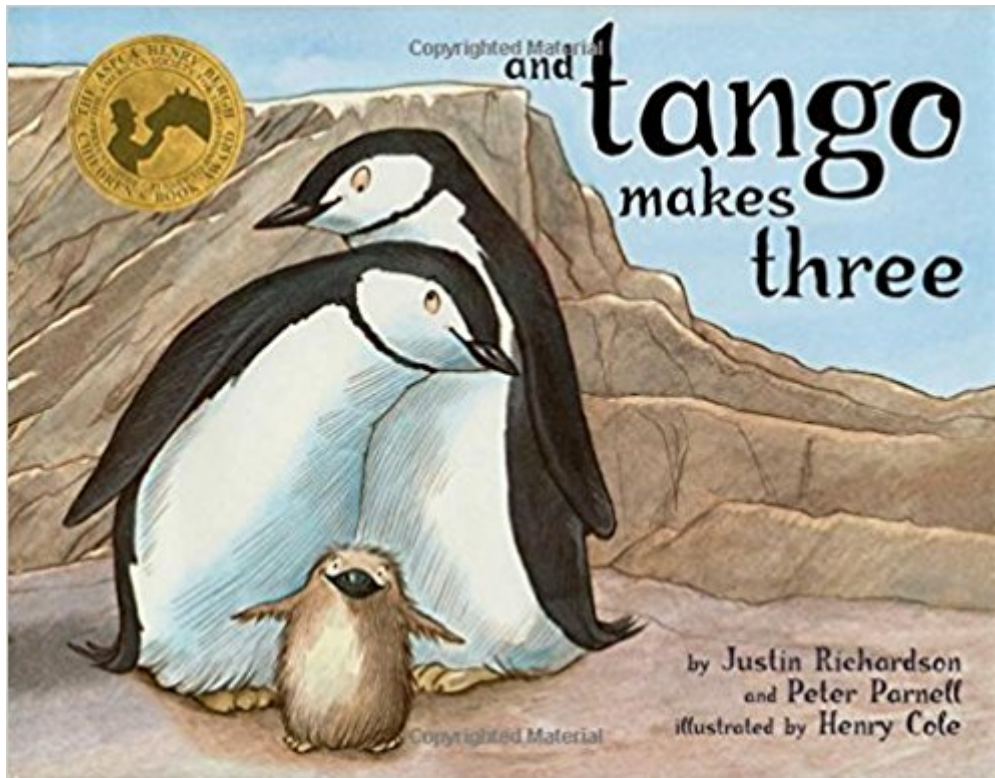




The book was found

And Tango Makes Three



Synopsis

And Tango Makes Three is the bestselling, heartwarming true story of two penguins who create a nontraditional family. At the penguin house at the Central Park Zoo, two penguins named Roy and Silo were a little bit different from the others. But their desire for a family was the same. And with the help of a kindly zookeeper, Roy and Silo get the chance to welcome a baby penguin of their very own. Selected as an ALA Notable Children's Book Nominee and a Lambda Literary Award Finalist, this joyful story about the meaning of family is a must for any library. (School Library Journal, starred review).

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 720L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers; 1st edition (June 1, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0689878451

ISBN-13: 978-0689878459

Product Dimensions: 11 x 0.4 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars See all reviews (299 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #29,192 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #18 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Adoption #39 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Zoos #101 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Birds

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

I recently saw a discussion on a television talk show about this charming little book. Two of the women were mothers and were discussing how they wouldn't read this book to their children. I had heard of the book before so I decided to buy the book and see for myself what might be "offensive" enough in a children's book to keep it away from little eyes. What I found, is an enduring story (and a true one) based on two male penguins who form a bond so strong and loving that their keeper guesses "they must be in love." The story shows the two boy penguins doing all the same things the mated penguins do with the exception of hatching their own little baby. After the keeper finds an extra egg that is laid by another penguin couple (penguins can only take care of one egg), he

decides to give Roy and Silo (the male couple) a chance to rear a little one. With much dedication, the two loving penguins take turns sitting on their nest and after a while, they hatch a cute little daughter, who is named Tango by the keeper. To me, this book is a story of love. It shows how families are made up of different components and yet, with differences, there can still be undying love. I think many people might look at this book as only a children's book addressing homosexuality. These people are missing the point. This book is a story of love....the love two adults (regardless of gender) can have for each other and the love they can show a child that they raise. It could also been seen, in my opinion, as a book about adoption, where a couple can't have children and how they still shower their baby with love though it is not their own biological creation. I think the story is told with tenderness and is thoughtful of the mind of a child.

And Tango Makes Three - Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell

On the top ten list of most frequently challenged books (2009) from ALA: homosexuality

We live in a world with all types of families: two parents, one parent, grandparents, two moms, two dads, aunts, uncles, etc. It is the status quo today for life to be that way. It is not as taboo for two women to raise a child together (or two men, for that matter). There are all sorts of books available on the subject, for kids and adults. And Tango Makes Three by Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell is just one example.

I did a Wikipedia search for the book and found an interesting quote from Mr. Richardson: We wrote the book to help parents teach children about same-sex parent families. It's no more an argument in favor of human gay relationships than it is a call for children to swallow their fish whole or sleep on rocks. I don't feel the book should have been banned, but rather it should be used as a teaching tool for parents. I certainly would have no problem reading it to my children. I can't speak for my friends, but in my experience, they are open-minded and would give it a chance before making a decision.

The story is simple and talks about different types of families in the beginning. From there it goes into Roy and Silo (the penguins) meeting and falling in penguin love. As time goes on, they watch their penguin friends pairing off and laying eggs. They are unable to lay eggs, so they find a rock and take turns sitting on it in hopes that it will hatch. Eventually, their caretaker, Mr. Gramzay finds them an egg to care for. It hatches and Tango is born (named because it takes two to Tango). Tango, Roy, and Silo go on to live happily ever after.

Honestly, I really enjoyed this book.

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