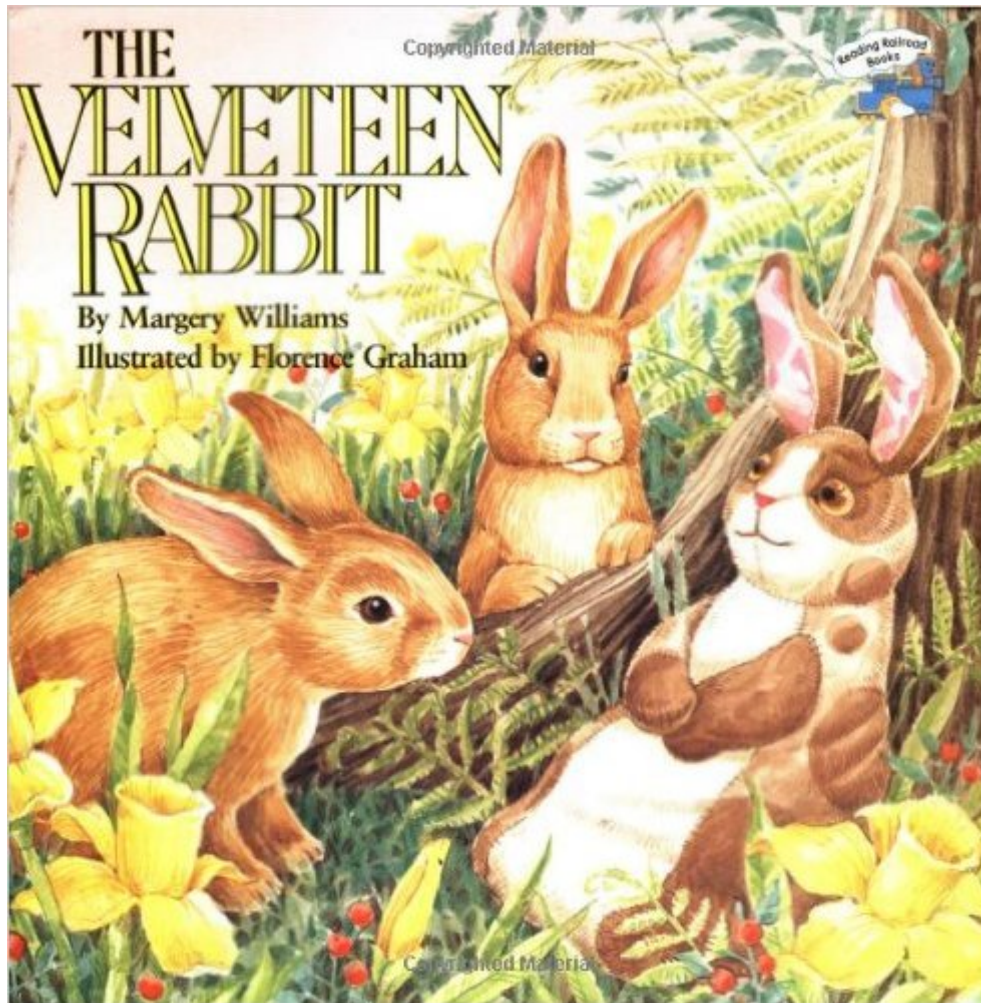


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# The Velveteen Rabbit (Reading Railroad)



## Synopsis

Illus. in full color. The timeless story of a toy rabbit that becomes real through the love of a child appears for the first time in an elegantly slipcased picture book and audio-cassette format. Cassette running time: 25 minutes.Â Â

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 820 (What's this?)

Series: Reading Railroad

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Grosset & Dunlap; Reprint edition (January 26, 1987)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0448190834

ISBN-13: 978-0448190839

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.1 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 0.3 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (1,191 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #28,021 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #46 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Animals > Rabbits #482 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Classics #907 inÂ Books > Literature & Fiction > Classics

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

I seldom write reviews on children's books, although I love them with a passion. My children are now mothers and my grandchildren are past young childhood. However, I believe that somewhere deep inside each of us remains a small child that still loves fairy tales, cotton candy, and walking barefoot in the grass. This book was one of my children's favourites, along with "Charlotte's Web;" both were also my own personal favourites. When my children were six years old reading this book became a nightly adventure until I knew the words by heart. For the reviewer who rated the book with a one star due to a spelling error, my heart goes out to you; you have sadly missed something very important - the message. The book is not about spelling, editing or lack thereof; it is about encouragement and love. The book tells the story of a toy, sawdust-filled rabbit who wishes with all his heart to become real. The message contained in this book is poignant, heart-warming and touching, and one that you will never forget as long as you live. It is a story of beauty, wonder and

love. Any child who misses out on "The Velveteen Rabbit" is missing out on one of life's greatest lessons. I cannot say enough good things about this wonderful, wonderful book and highly recommend it to children...and the grown-up child in all of us.

I must say that I am amazed to find myself the first to comment on this edition of this jewel of a "children's" book. Along with the Bible, Great Expectations, The Power and the Glory, The Experience of Nothingness, The Stranger, Hamlet, The Once and Future King, the Quest for the Historical Jesus, Either/Or, Letters and Papers from Prison and The Cost of Discipleship, this humble "children's book" still stands as one of the most important books of my life. Odd? I did not get books as a child -- we were far too poor. After barely surviving poverty and all that it sires, I found myself on my own at university in my mid-twenties amidst the confusion and tragedy that was the "60's". Getting out of the poverty trap had only introduced me to greater questions of being, choice, and action. For my twenty-fifth birthday a particularly beautiful soul gave me a copy of The Velveteen Rabbit. Nothing could have been a more fitting and benefiting gift. The conversation between the little rabbit and the wise old Skin Horse quite literally reduced me to tears -- the simple truth, life-long truth struck deep and stuck deep within me -- no sharp edges, no excessive needs.... In truth, even now as I await the tear-fairy for my own final transformation, I read it with the same pain in the throat and often give way to the tears as I read to the children in my life. I cannot honestly say how many copies of this treasure I have owned and given away only to replace one with another to give away in time, as well. And I continue. This edition, the first, has such beautiful illustrations so carefully placed as to shame all the late-comers with their "updates" which the gentle Miss Margery Williams would have no doubt kindly "set aside" in favour of the originals done for her with a quiet passion and dignity of the story itself.

These are the days of Sony Playstation 2 and Harry Potter, activities that do not really ever try to tell a great story that also gives a lesson without being preachy. The Velveteen Rabbit is heartwrenchingly beautiful. The Rabbit who yearns to be Real and whose love for the boy was unconditional is both imaginative and sad. I cannot read this book without a lump coming to my throat and being transported to simpler days when the love of a toy was the greatest thing in the whole world. This is a book with an ending that is mixed, that touches on the ambiguity of life and loss. But there is also hope of a new beginning. And I think children can understand that and grow from it. I cherish this book deeply.

This is a heartwarming story about a toy rabbit filled with sawdust that wants to be real. He realizes what the meaning of "real" is when his owner, a young boy, gives him the answer for which he searches. My wife bought this book for me last month. I missed it as a child. I've learned the lesson in this book in traditional ways, by trial and error. I would have loved to have this treasure as a child and thank my beautiful wife, Lori, for giving it to me, now. Only real love has any meaning or longevity, at all. I ask you readers to not pass up this gem of a book. It is a must for children and adults alike.

The prose is engaging and entertaining. It is the best kind of children's story -- appealing to adults. There are no pictures in this edition, but the text stands up very well on its own, and if you have not read it, it is well worth the time--such a quick and pleasant read.

Daughter Anna (now 19 years old) loved this book. It was her favorite above all others. As we sorted through some old kid things for give-away purposes, we stumbled upon this old, well worn copy of "The Velveteen Rabbit." She insisted we keep the book for HER children. This was her book that Mama (me!) had to read to her again and again and again. As soon as the last word was read on the last page, it was "Mama, please read it again!" (how I miss those days, by the way!) The book also has a powerful message about Love that children understand and cherish. This is a wonderful book. No child should be without their own copy of "The Velveteen Rabbit."

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