

Her Name is Missy by Gail Gillespie-Fox and Graham Spence

4 stars

A book you won't be able to put down

A wonderfully enthralling tale about the journey of an animal lover and her quest to protect her beloved baby chimpanzee, whilst bringing home the stark and ugly nature of the wildlife trade. A book you won't be able to put down from front cover to back.

When Gail Gillespie-Fox and her fiancé, move from South Africa to Liberia, an unknown country where a new adventure awaits them. Join them in their new lives as they strive to acclimatise to their new surroundings, new people and the very real and visible wildlife trade that runs rampant through their home. Little did they know that due to a series of fortunate (or unfortunate) events Gail and her fiancé would become the full time foster parents of an orphaned baby chimp just as Ebola breaks out and the future of all wildlife (and the vile trade that goes with it) faces a dubious future.

The journey into the heart of life as an ex-pat in Liberia provides the reader with a stark first-person perspective on the wildlife trade that runs unrestrained throughout the world. The book is extremely well written with such detail included that you will become completely immersed in the journey. Included are many interactions between Gail - a clearly compassionate animal lover- and hunters that regularly hunt and sell wild animals to the well-meaning expat community, some with amusing results whilst some with far more serious consequences. As the story progresses the empathy for the well-meaning protagonist and the all so lovable "Missy" develops. This is such an enthralling book that once you get hooked you won't be able to put it down, and once it's finished it will make you want to read it all over again.

Alex

Breakaway Reviewers received a copy of the book to review.