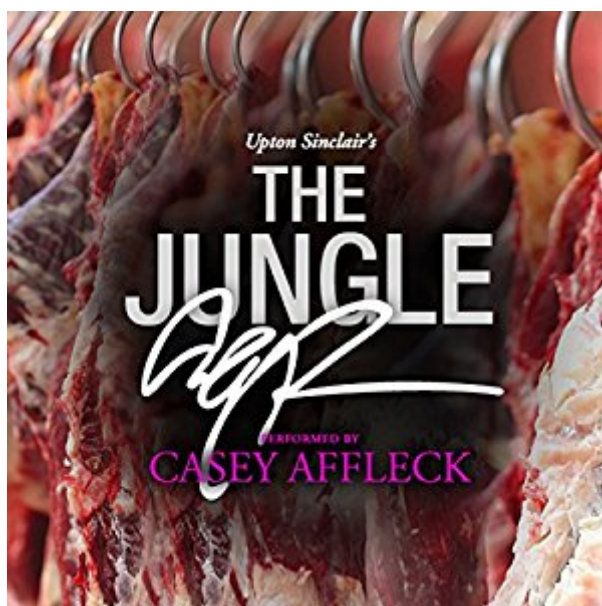


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The Jungle: A Signature Performance By Casey Affleck



Synopsis

Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle* is a visceral and tragic story of immigrants trying to scratch out a living in the meatpacking plants of Chicago. The resulting public outcry led directly to the US government enacting changes in food and workplace safety practices still in place today. With food production, business ethics, and immigration back in the news, Academy Award nominee Casey Affleck (*Gone Baby Gone*) taps into the emotion behind these issues to breathe life back into the struggling inhabitants of Packingtown. Affleck, a committed vegan and animal rights spokesman, delivers a moving performance that connects with the book's enduring legacy. *The Jungle* revolves around the life and family of Jurgis Rudkus, a Lithuanian immigrant whose dreams of a better life are crushed by punishing work in gruesome stockyards and an unforgiving city. Brilliantly written and vividly described, it provides a poignant and incredibly detailed snapshot of a striking point in American history.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I'm skimming the reviews and seeing all these comments about "children", and then spotted the #1 Most Helpful Review, which references Rudyard Kipling. If you think this is "The Jungle Book," you are ever so wrong. People. This is *The Jungle* by Upton Sinclair. It's a gruesome, shocking account of life for immigrants in the early 1900s. When we did our family tree, we found that the 1880 census in Chicago lists my seven-year-old great grandfather by occupation. He worked in the Chicago Stockyards, using a squeegee to push blood down a drain, probably for 12 hours a day. Once

again, he was seven years old. I just bought this book for my son, who was bitterly complaining about how unfairly he was treated at work this week. I told him about the seven-year-old ancestor. He's a voracious reader, so I am hopeful the message will sink in.

"The Jungle Book" is a classic novel, one that ALL children should either hear read, or read themselves. THIS version (by Minalima Ltd. w/Interactive Elements) should be the one you get. IT IS INCREDIBLE!! It is chalked-full of interactive "stuff," and has the most beautiful illustrations. One of the better things with this version is that all the "stuff" it comes with is attached to the book, which means it will be much more difficult to lose. Really, if you're trying to decide which version of this timeless book you should buy, get the Minalima version. They also have a *Peter Pan*, which is just as delightful. (No, I do not work for this company, and in fact know nothing about them other than the fact that these two books are totally magical.)

When I was a student, teachers always referred to "The Jungle" as the expose that led to the Pure Food and Drug Act, and described the book as an expose of the rats and filth that went into the meat packaged and sold at that time. While this is true, there was much left out of those scant explanations. This is a novelized depiction of life in Chicago in the early 19th century. Yurgis and Ono, along with other members of their family, move to America to participate in the land of opportunity and riches. They quickly become pulled into the horrific world of the Chicago stockyards, and halfway through the novel, the idyllic life envisioned by Yurgis has been destroyed. He experiences other adventures over the next few years until he finds happiness by embracing Socialism. Throughout this long journey, Yurgis encounters more misery than the average man would be able to endure. Sinclair accomplished a journalistic feat with his undercover investigation of the meat packing process (he spent almost two months working in the Chicago plants). This book also has a political undertone which reveals itself at the end with a long explanation of the benefits of Socialism (though this should not be a surprise to the reader, as capitalism and the two-party system is at the heart of Yurgis's problems). This is a good read for those who have a desire to learn more about life in the early 1900s and the affects on immigrants and citizens.

A classic spanning generations! In particular this edition is worth every penny! The pages are of thick card stock and the dust jacket is just fantastic! The illustrations really bring the story to life. And the story is of course riveting. A GREAT classic!! This edition is one of those books that will be an heirloom. It is hardy enough in construction to endure and the story will be relevant forever. Again a

wonderful classic presented in such a way to rival the characters and plot. I would gladly recommend this book and the others in the series to others, and as a mom of five and a nanny to many this book can be appreciated and enjoyed for many, many years. A great investment to encourage reading, creative writing and most especially time with your children reading together!! The other books in this series (Sterling Illustrated Classics) are also of great quality.

This book is a classic. I just bought it recently, but my mother used to read it to me when I was a child and I absolutely loved it then. . I am rereading it now and it is even more wonderful. This book is for both adults and children. Real classic literature, like the very best of all stories, the stories in the Jungle book are timeless and universal and deeply satisfying reads. Well worth it! Read it to your kids too! Studies show that reading to kids stimulates brain development and these are stories that children will absolutely love. I know I did-- both then and now!

As always, the book is better than the movie! After the great animated movie and two live action ones, it was fun reading the two books of short stories as th source of all three movies. There's a lot not included in the movies to keep them child-oriented and I agree with Disney on this, though glad I know the whole story now, including the negative take on humans and how Mowgli really killed Shere Kahn and his return to the humans in the end. Plus the other short stories like Riki Tiki Tavi! Good read!

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