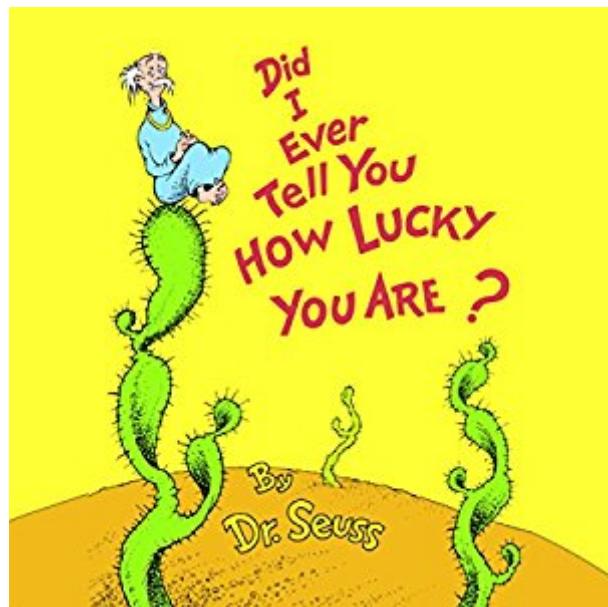


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Did I Ever Tell You How Lucky You Are



Synopsis

FOR USE IN SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES ONLY. Compared to the problems of some of the creatures the old man describes, the boy is really quite lucky. --This text refers to the School & Library Binding edition.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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Audible.com Release Date: June 27, 2006

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Customer Reviews

Theodore Seuss Guisel is, of course, one of the best known children's authors today. Though he left us in 1994, his legacy lives on and his books are still produced, bought and loved as much now as anytime in the past. When we think of him, we immediately think of "The Cat in the Hat" or "How the Grinch Stole Christmas", but we can easily forget some of his wonderful, lesser-known works.

"When I was quite young and quite small for my size I met an old man in the Desert of Drize..." So begins "Did I Ever Tell You..." where the narrator finds an old man sitting atop a prickly cactus in the middle of the desert. The man tells the boy narrator that whenever HE feels like his life isn't going well, he reminds himself how lucky he really IS. He could be, for example, a construction worker on the impossibly rickety Bunglebung Bridge, where workers are toiling over the water to finish the impossibly crooked structure. Yes, things could be far worse!! You could be a Poogle-Horn Player who has to honk away on your complex, tuba-like Poogle-Horn while descending a flight of stairs... on a two story unicycle, no less!! The absurdness of people less fortunate splash across each page, Seuss-like, as Mr. Bix wakes up at 6 in the morning to find that his Borfin has schlumped over, or Mr. Potter who has to dot i's and cross t's on endless, miles-long spools of paper! Yes, things could be far worse than they are, Ducky, so count yourself lucky! Published in 1973, "Have I Ever Told You..." is a wonderfully funny book with some subtle messages. Written during a period of time

when parents were still forever admonishing their children, "you're so lucky to be able to eat those Brussels sprouts!! Why, there's children starving in Africa...

Researchers constantly find that reading to children is valuable in a variety of ways, not least of which are instilling a love of reading and improved reading skills. With better parent-child bonding from reading, your child will also be more emotionally secure and able to relate better to others. Intellectual performance will expand as well. Spending time together watching television fails as a substitute. To help other parents apply this advice, as a parent of four I consulted an expert, our youngest child, and asked her to share with me her favorite books that were read to her as a young child. "Did I Ever Tell You How Lucky You Are?" was one of her picks. If my daughter picked the book, you may be wondering why I rated this book at four stars. That is an average rating of five stars for adults and three stars for children. Although my daughter liked the book, I think that most children won't get it. On the other hand, they will think it is funny, and that's a fair benefit from any book. But the moral will be missed. This book is the most humorous variant on the admonition that every parent uses with children: Don't you know there are people starving in Blank! Because someone is worse off than you is supposed to make you feel better. It never worked for me when my parents tried that. After you have lived a while though, you begin to count your blessings. Having seen the downside as portrayed by Dr. Seuss will make you feel even more relieved by poking fun at your self concerns. In this book, you will meet people with all kinds of thorny problems, starting with an old man sitting on top of cactus in the Desert of Drize. Ouch! No job could be as bad as putting the Bunglebung Bridge together.

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