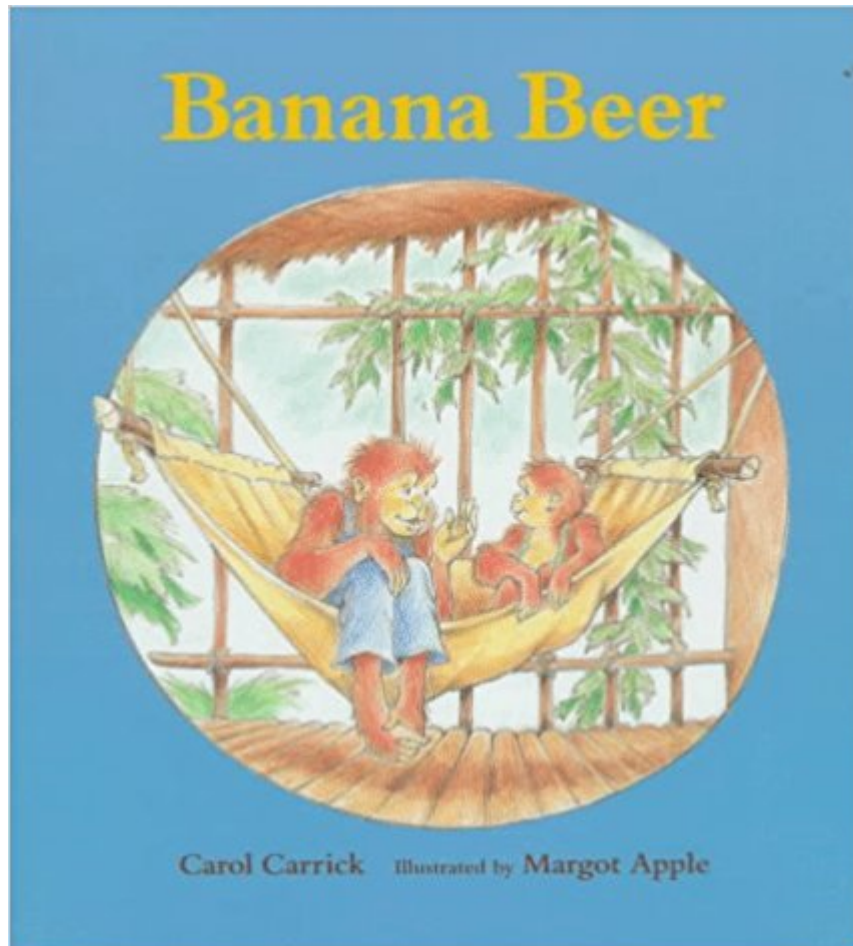




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Banana Beer



Synopsis

Charlie the orangutan's life is adversely affected by his father's addiction.

Book Information

Age Range: 5 and up

Library Binding: 1 pages

Publisher: Concept Books (March 1995)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0807505684

ISBN-13: 978-0807505687

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 8.8 x 9.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,033,301 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #9 in [Books > Children's Books](#)
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Customer Reviews

Kindergarten-Grade 3?Charlie's father drinks too much. His parents are quarrelsome and irritable, and Charlie begins to blame himself: "Maybe Dad wouldn't drink so much if I was a better boy." One day his frustration over his troubled home life flares up and he confides in his kindly teacher. Later, he eats dinner with a friend and her loving family and wishes he could stay with them. When his father picks him up, though, he knows that his dad loves him. He continues to hope that things will return to the way they were before the drinking became such a problem. A final note explains that many families suffer from similar situations and that there are support groups for them. The complex issues of alcoholism and its effects on the abuser's loved ones are thoughtfully handled, and Carrick does a fine job of presenting Charlie's feelings. Apple's lively, colored-pencil drawings of the anthropomorphic orangutan characters balance out the poignancy of the text. Although it can be read independently, the book is better suited to sharing with adults as it's sure to prompt questions and discussion.?Marilyn Taniguchi, Santa Monica Public Library, CA
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Children in this situation are able to relate to this book. Its a difficult thing to talk to them about this without this book

It must have been difficult to write a book on alcoholism for the picture-book age. So often, books of this type fail for one of two reasons: either they are too pat, with an unrealistically happy ending, or they are way too wordy. In a family of monkeys, Carrick somehow manages to convey the brutal sorrow of an alcoholic home at a level that could be used with 4 year olds. Warning! Not a fun book and not a book to just leave the child to discover him or her self, but a very useful tool for anyone trying to help a child whose family has this problem.

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