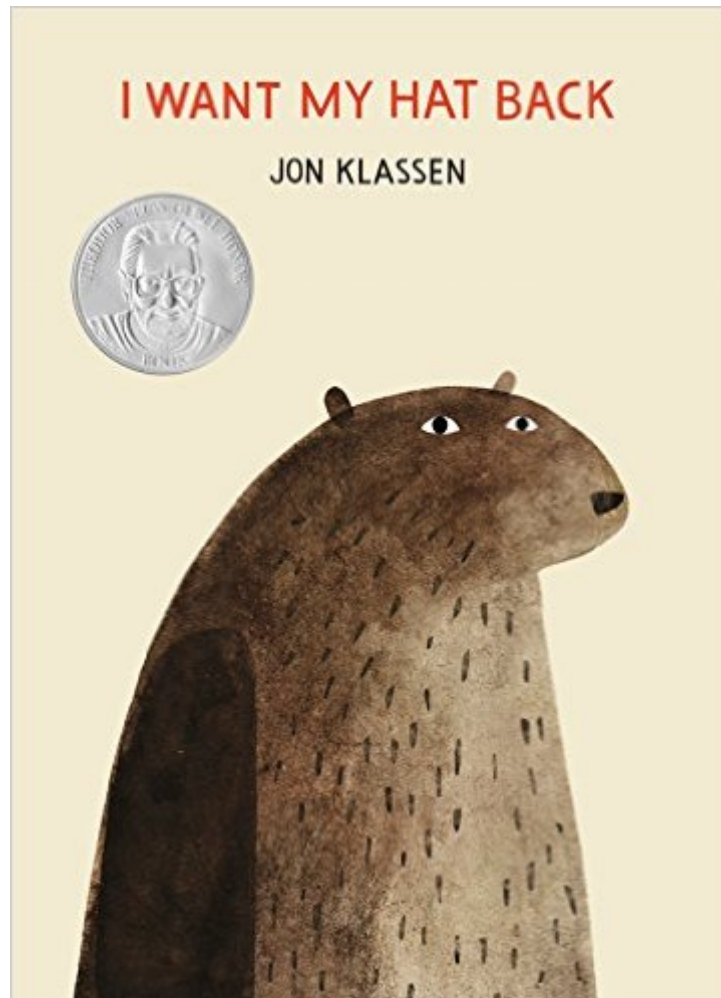


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# I Want My Hat Back



## Synopsis

A New York Times Best Illustrated Children's Book of 2011! A picture-book delight by a rising talent tells a cumulative tale with a mischievous twist. The bear's hat is gone, and he wants it back. Patiently and politely, he asks the animals he comes across, one by one, whether they have seen it. Each animal says no, some more elaborately than others. But just as the bear begins to despond, a deer comes by and asks a simple question that sparks the bear's memory and renews his search with a vengeance. Told completely in dialogue, this delicious take on the classic repetitive tale plays out in sly illustrations laced with visual humor-- and winks at the reader with a wry irreverence that will have kids of all ages thrilled to be in on the joke.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 90L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Candlewick Press; 1st edition (September 27, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0763655988

ISBN-13: 978-0763655983

Product Dimensions: 8.1 x 0.4 x 11.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (521 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,720 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #9 in [Books > Children's Books >](#)

[Growing Up & Facts of Life > Fiction](#) #14 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Bears](#) #141 in [Books > Children's Books > Humor](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

I knew it! I knew it, I knew it, I knew it, I knew it, I knew it, I knew it! When Caroline Stutson's *Cats' Night Out* was released by Simon & Schuster in 2010 it contained art by an animator going by the moniker of Jon Klassen. And frankly I just thought it contained some of the slickest art I'd seen in a picture book in a long while. I hardly even noticed that he was the same guy behind the pictures found in *The Incorrigible Children of Ashton Place* by Maryrose Wood. Still and all, until now he hadn't illustrated his own book. I was fairly certain he might at some point, and I wasn't sure I'd be looking forward to it. I mean, I thought the man was grand, but could he tell a story? Well, turns out I was right about

the fact that his art is magnificent and now, with the release of his first author/illustrator picture book *I Want My Hat Back*, Klassen shows once and for all that his storytelling talents match his illustration technique pound for pound. A bear has lost his hat. To find it he questions a variety of woodland creatures including a fox, a frog, a turtle, a possum, a deer, a snake and a rabbit. The rabbit, for the record, refuses to acknowledge having seen the hat in spite of the fact that he appears to be wearing it. And when the bear realizes the true culprit there will be a price to pay. A deeply amusing price. Painted with Chinese ink and digital art, Klassen's book falls into that growing category of subversive picture books out there.

My sons, ages 5 and 7, received this as a Christmas gift. I had never heard of the book before this, so I had no preconceived notions of how good/bad it was and I'm grateful I didn't. First of all, there is something to be said for the simplicity of the story, the illustrations and the tongue-in-cheek humor that is an undertone throughout this book. My sons both loved the illustrations and the story in general. I did have to reread the end of the book to see if I understood what happened correctly (I did) and explain the ending to my sons. My oldest replied "Well I guess that's what happens when you're a rabbit and a bear." And that, my friends, is the answer to any questions you may have about this book in a nutshell. Bears and rabbits don't always get along in the natural world, especially if you trick a bear. It also opened up a discussion on how wildlife really works, and that alone is a good thing. Now some reviewers have called the bear a murderer, which is more than a little harsh in my opinion. I mean, don't bears hunt for food? Okay, the rabbit tricks the bear, but does that mean he has to end up with the fate given to him. In children's literature, no. In real life, yes. Take your pick as to how you want the story to go. My sons understood the bear had been tricked or lied to and that he ended up with an unfortunate fate. They weren't traumatized by this, it was just something that happened, something that really does happen. My bigger concern for the book is regarding the lying. Rabbit lies and gets punished in the end. While harsh, if the story ended there, it would carry, to some degree, a good message about lying and that it has consequences.

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Back Pain Industry Is Costing Us More and Giving Us Less\_and What You Can Do to Inform and Empower Yourself in Seeking ... Culture and Politics of Health Care Work) Good Sex: A Sex Guide for Women on How to Give Men What They Want and Keep Them Coming Back for More What Women Want in a Man: How to Become the Alpha Male Women Respect, Desire, and Want to Submit To What Men Want: Tips, Tricks and Secrets to What Men Really Want in Bed: What He Wants So, You Want to Be a Coder?: The Ultimate Guide to a Career in Programming, Video Game Creation, Robotics, and More! (Be What You Want) You Wouldn't Want to Be a Shakespearean Actor!: Some Roles You Might Not Want to Play You Wouldnt Want to Be a Shakespearean Actor!: Some Roles You Might Not Want to Play So, You Want to Work with the Ancient and Recent Dead?: Unearthing Careers from Paleontology to Forensic Science (Be What You Want) Outwitting Cats: Tips, Tricks and Techniques for Persuading the Felines in Your Life That What YOU Want Is Also What THEY Want The MBA Reality Check: Make the School You Want, Want You Business Negotiation: 20 Steps To Negotiate With Results, Making Deals, Negotiation Strategies, Get What You Want, When You Want It, Achieve Brilliant Results, Negotiation Genius, Leadership So, You Want to Be a Comic Book Artist?: The Ultimate Guide on How to Break Into Comics! (Be What You Want) Persuasion: The Art of Persuasion, Influence, and Power To Get Whatever You Want, Whenever You Want

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