

Synopsis

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Monkey Sense Book

About 15k words, 100 pages

First of a planned series of five, the author believes it would be a suggested read for late middle school, early high school students. Schools that use the inter-disciplinary approach have teachers select material that covers STEM (Science Technology, Engineering, Math) and/or SEL (Social Emotional Learning). It seems likely that a geometry teacher, for example, would suggest this entire series. The material is very current (2021), reaches into philosophy, politics, relationships, etc. This means the young adult or new adult readership can benefit from the didactic presentation.

Page 3 text reads: “The earliest biped human skeletal remains are dated over a million years ago. It has taken that long for bipeds to evolve. A certain troop of monkeys are engaged in a pandemonium panic by observing the most recent and sudden *devolution* of humans. This isn’t as the Creator planned. They try to bring humans to their senses. The early pages start low, go slow then evolve! Nonetheless children aged 12-20 should read them as explained in the Afterword.”

All characters are fictional monkeys who try to teach us humans a thing or two. By page 8 the initial setting is defined: an Ugandan girl, Alexa, is a first time camp counselor in her country. Prior pages appear to be a a first or second grade reading level (for a reason the author establishes towards the end). Character names reflect relationships and/or ethnicity such as Yusuf (Ugandan), Jozefa (Polish), Gerard (French Canadian) and even a few that map to existing political types.

The setting consists of two continents: Africa and North America. The topical range is extensive. It mirrors Alexa’s growth and maturation. The table presented below tries to categorize the topics. Alexa achieves a philosophical milestone that pushes the target readers’

envelope and expected ken. She is best described as a *keener*. (Read book to find out what that means). Not to give things away the author will divulge this: she (with help from supporting actors such as Art, Jozefa, Yusuf, Grumpy and others) over achieves as hoped. The ending provides a ‘lead in’ or introduction to the second book in the five book series. The reader is left uncertain as to whether Alexa will reappear later.

The Synopsis follows:

While in the camp setting Alexa recalls earlier times when living in a nearby village. Those years provided critical thinking skills, exposed her to a startling ancient teacher, and ended abruptly in tragedy. Having fled the village, her education grew enough that, by the time she became a freshman counselor, the ancient teacher’s discovery led her to develop a model as to what, exactly, are so-called ‘senses’. She pondered the question: how many are there?

Trying to answer the fundamental question started her quest. One that reaches a climax as the book ends. Interaction with several characters encountered at the camp and later on when attending college helps her narrow down the imposing question and derive a sensible answer.

The steps, the characters, the events in pursuing her quest shed light over a myriad of topics.

Topics

STEM	Steam, Air, Updrafts	Center of gravity, Bike mechanics	Math/ nature connection, Coding	Basic machines	Sense scientific names	
SEL	Death, Bullying	Romantic episodes	Cultural edification	Handicap awareness	Sexuality, Mental health	Music, Dance, Camps, Races
Politics	Justice	Cultural tensions	Community bonding	Voting		
Society	Archeology	Infrastructure	Linguistics, Geography	Polite Discourse	Architecture choices	Student report to solve systemic issues.

Author’s book tour page: https://collogistics.gunnerysergeant.org/?page_id=77.

Includes a full draft online version of the planned textbook. Promo codes available.