



2010

Daniel Defoe's The Adventures of Robinson Crusoe

Gabriele I. Kupitz

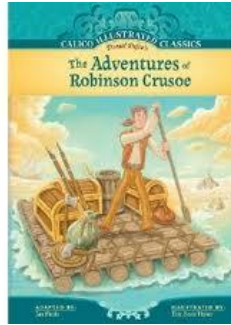
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Fields, Jan. *Daniel Defoe's The Adventures of Robinson Crusoe*. Illustrated by Eric Scott Fisher. ABDO, 2010. ISBN 9781602707030. \$24.00. 112 p.

Reviewer: Gabi Kupitz

Reading Level: Primary, Intermediate, Young Adult

Rating: Excellent

Genre: Adventure stories

Subject: Shipwrecks--Juvenile fiction; Survival--Juvenile fiction; Adventure and adventurer--Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

Born in 1632 as the third son of English parents, Robinson Crusoe has no hope of an inheritance. Studying law and settling into a predictable life is not for him, so he escapes for a life of adventure at sea. Shipwrecks, slavery, pirates, and managing an island of his own are just some of the adventures Crusoe encounters. Being stranded for almost thirty years on "his" island tests Crusoe's resolve and ingenuity in many ways. Discovering that cannibals visit his island on a fairly regular basis at first sends Crusoe cowering into one of his well-disguised shelters until he determines to rescue a soon-to-be victim. The cannibals' intended victim so appreciates another chance at life that he becomes Crusoe's loyal friend Friday--so named because Crusoe's rescue of him took place on a Friday.

The two men have adventures on and off the island in this well-paced and "Cliff Notes" type of answer to the original tome which has over three hundred pages. Jan Fields has done a fine job of adapting a classic adventure that will appeal to many age groups.