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How to Babysit a Leopard: And Other Stories from our Travels Across Six Continents

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Book Review
How to Babysit a Leopard: And Other Stories from our Travels

Ted and Betsy Lewin document their travels all over the world through small stories, memories, photographs, and illustrations. They portray their emotions as they see amazing sights in some of the harshest climatic and economic environments, proving that beauty can indeed be found anywhere. They experience connection with the people surviving in the driest parts of Africa and amazement at being up close to gorillas in war-torn Uganda. They encounter wildlife in the Galapagos Island and find beauty in the mundane even in New York. This book is packed full of uniquely interesting experiences.

The colorful descriptions, illustrations, and photography really immerse the reader in the adventures this texts explores. Initially, all of the extras included on each page seem like clutter, but as readers get further invested in the travels of the Lewins, the illustrations and photographs that were original to the trips really add depth and understanding to the adventures. A pronunciation guide would be helpful with the foreign names and places, especially for younger readers. The inclusion of an illustrated map is invaluable, as readers will find themselves flipping back through the pages to see where the adventures are occurring on relationship to the continent’s map.