Look!

Abigail Packard
Review

This gorilla just wants to make a new friend. But it’s hard for him to get the attention of the boy when all the boy wants to do is watch TV. After some crazy antics and tricks, the gorilla accidentally knocks over the TV and the little boy is angry. But then the little boy picks up one of the books the gorilla was playing with and realizes how great books are. He and the gorilla become friends over their shared new-found love of books.

Jeff Mack has done an excellent job of portraying this cute story of friendship and reading using only two words: look and out. His pictures, on the other hand, are anything but minimalistic. The gorilla and boy are charming and their facial expression and gestures make the meaning, coupled with the words, obvious. To top off the creative portrayal of the story, the background of each page is a page or cover of a book. This picture book is engaging not only because the reader is invited to interpret the story in their own way but also because the story about the value of reading speaks to an universal audience. Look! is definitely a must have for libraries, schools, and families.