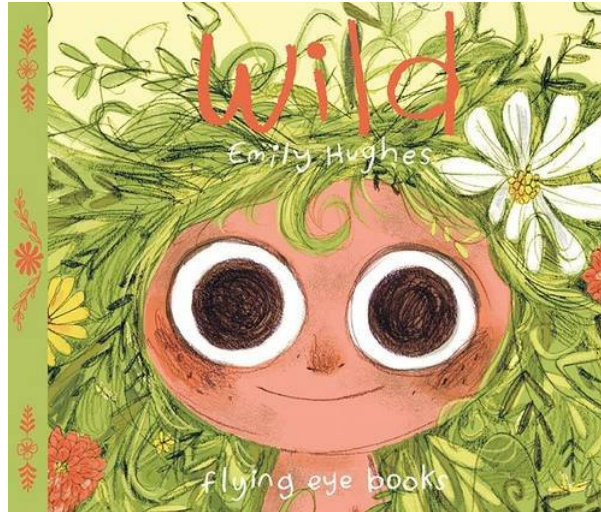
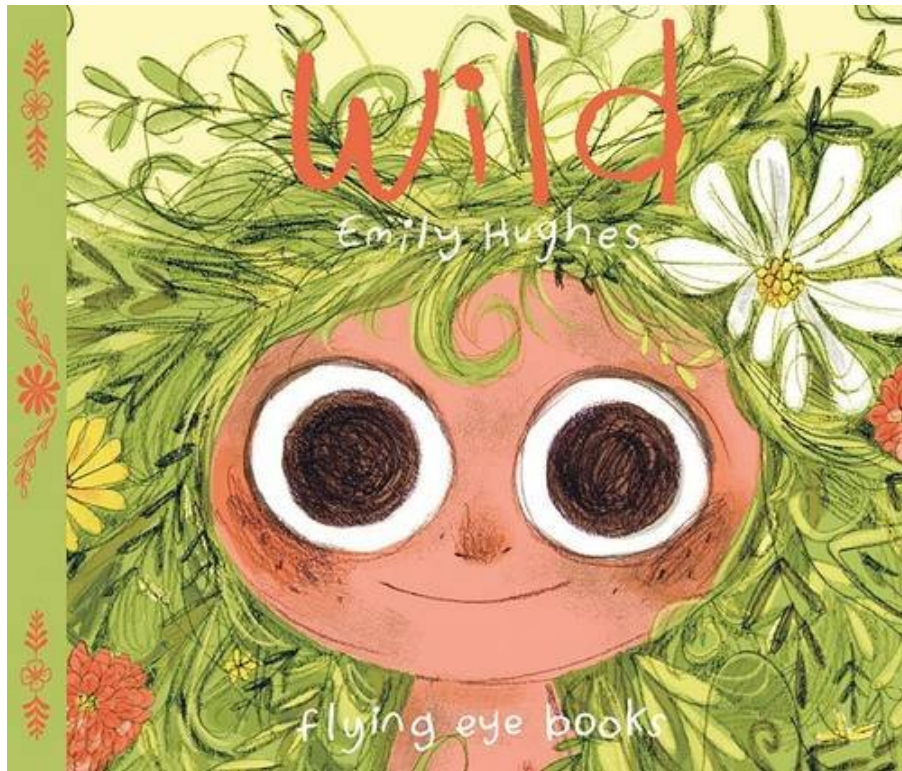


# WILD BY EMILY HUGHES



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## Review

Best Children's Book of 2014, Brain Pickings

"Wild by Emily Hughes relies on its lush, almost rough art to convey a story about belonging and being different. When a little girl raised in the woods is taken into 'civilized' society, mayhem and torn upholstery follow in her wake." - The Horn Book

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This brilliant debut picture book by Hawaiian author-illustrator Emily Hughes tells the story of a little girl who has known nothing but nature from birth. Bears taught her to eat, birds to speak, foxes to play; she is unabashedly, irrefutably, irrepressibly Wild. That is, until one day she meets a new animal that looks oddly like her...

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**Wild By Emily Hughes.** Adjustment your practice to put up or squander the time to only talk with your friends. It is done by your everyday, do not you really feel tired? Currently, we will certainly reveal you the brand-new behavior that, really it's an older habit to do that can make your life more qualified. When feeling tired of consistently talking with your good friends all downtime, you can find guide entitle Wild By Emily Hughes and afterwards review it.

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# WILD BY EMILY HUGHES PDF

"You cannot tame something so happily wild."

In this beautiful picture book by Hawaiian artist Emily Hughes, we meet a little girl who has known nothing but nature from birth—she was taught to talk by birds, to eat by bears, and to play by foxes. She is unashamedly, irrefutably, irrepressibly wild. That is, until she is snared by some very strange animals that look oddly like her, but they don't talk right, eat right, or play correctly. She's puzzled by their behavior and their insistence on living in these strange concrete structures: there's no green here, no animals, no trees, no rivers. Now she lives in the comfort of civilization. But will civilization get comfortable with her?

In her debut picture book, Hughes brings an uncanny humor to her painterly illustrations. Her work is awash with color, atmosphere, and a stunning visual splendor that will enchant children while indulging their wilder tendencies. *Wild* is a twenty-first-century answer to Maurice Sendak's children's classic—it has the same inventiveness, groundbreaking art, and unmissable quirkiness.

Emily Hughes is a talented young illustrator. Her book *Nana Shaped Like a Banana* won second prize in the 2012 Macmillan Children's Book Awards.

- Sales Rank: #343561 in Books
- Published on: 2015-04-01
- Original language: English
- Dimensions: 9.17" h x .31" w x 10.71" l, .17 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 40 pages

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Her work has been exhibited across the capital and her work recently came second in the Macmillan prize for childrens' picture books.

#### Most helpful customer reviews

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Beautifully illustrated, lovely story!

By Lindsey Jones

My 1.5 year old daughter (we call her *Wild Clementine*) is utterly enraptured with this book. We read it at least 5 times a day - sometimes I have to hide it just to get a break to go do other things, because when we get started it's constantly "again, again" - one day when she was sick, we read it over 30 times! :O The

illustrations are beautiful.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Five Stars

By STEFANI M.

Loved the simple storyline, loved the illustrations, great book!

20 of 21 people found the following review helpful.

Feral frolick

By E. R. Bird

There lives in every child an animal. A wild, untamable creature that will emerge without fail at the worst possible moments, rendering its parents helpless and hopeless all in one swoop. There also exist in this world picture books that touch on this restrained/free duality. You might even argue that the BEST children's books touch on this in some way ("Where the Wild Things Are" being the most obvious example). In 2013 alone we saw Peter Brown's "Mr. Tiger Goes Wild" talk about the need in every child for order as well as wild uninhibited freedom. "Wild", in contrast, is a simpler story. Following just one girl from her path from nature to the city and back again, it has a different lesson in mind. It is all well and good for some to find a happy medium between chaos and order but for some kids chaos is clearly MUCH more appealing!

"No one remembered how she came to the woods, but all knew it was right." A green-haired baby smiles contentedly on a forest floor as a bear, bird, and fox look on. Over the years the bird teaches her to speak, the bear to eat, and the fox to play. Unfortunately a hunter's trap catches the child by her foliage-like hair and a pair of baffled hunters takes her back with them to civilization. There the child is forced to reside in the home of a well-meaning psychiatrist and his wife. Attempts to normalize her fail resoundingly and at last she flees back to the wild, the family dog and cat in tow. After all, "you cannot tame something so happily wild."

A British-born Hawaiian-residing author/illustrator, Emily Hughes' art is fascinating to look at, partly because it's so incredibly European. It's something about the eyes, I think. Or maybe just the way the landscape and the animals intertwine. The bears, for example, reminded me of nothing so much as the ones found in "The Bear's Song" by Benjamin Chaud (a Frenchman). The heroine herself is somehow big-eyed without devolving into preciousness (a delicate balance). Her plant-like hair almost looks like it might be sentient at times. People in general are rendered with a fine hand. My favorite shot is of the wild child being brought to civilization by the two clearly shell-shocked hunters. As the men, and even their dog, drive in the rain, their eyes ringed with worry, the child sits on the front seat with only her eyes visible over the dash. She is clearly silent and livid.

It's interesting to look at the settings and colors in the book as well. As the girl is raised there isn't a white page to be seen until the last fateful line of "And she understood, and was happy." Then, when humanity intervenes, the white pages begin to proliferate. Interior spreads are either grey/green or peach/brown and nothing else. It's as much a relief to the reader's eye as it is the child's spirit when she escapes again into the wild. I was particularly pleased too with the two-page wordless humanless spread displaying only the child's wanton path of destruction. As for the wild itself, here we have a utopian Eden, where animals might eat the occasional fish but never a green-haired baby child. Or, for that matter, one another.

One quibble I have with the book is the final line. It ends on an ellipsis, you see. Now I'm as big a fan of your average everyday ellipses as the next gal. And I understand that there must have been long editorial discussions with the author/illustrator that justified its presence on the last page. I just have absolutely no idea what those justifications could possibly be. The line reads, "Because you cannot tame something so happily wild..." Maybe the dot dot dot is there to suggest that this isn't the end of the story? I haven't a better idea.



Oh, they'll tag this as an eco-centric morality tale, I'm sure. Wild/nature = good, civilization/standardization = bad. That sort of thing. Honestly, I think it has a lot more to say about the inner life of a young child than any overt messagey message about Mother Earth. But there aren't any rules governing how you use a book, so go on! Use it to talk to kids about nature and the outdoors. Use it to talk about acceptable and non-acceptable behavior and when those rules break down. Use it to discuss tropes most common in European vs. American books, or what makes this book a stand out in its field. Talk about it any old way you like, but make sure you talk about it. A surprisingly lovely little piece that bears similarities to hundreds of picture books out there, but isn't really like a single one. One of a kind.

For ages 3-7.

[See all 64 customer reviews...](#)

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