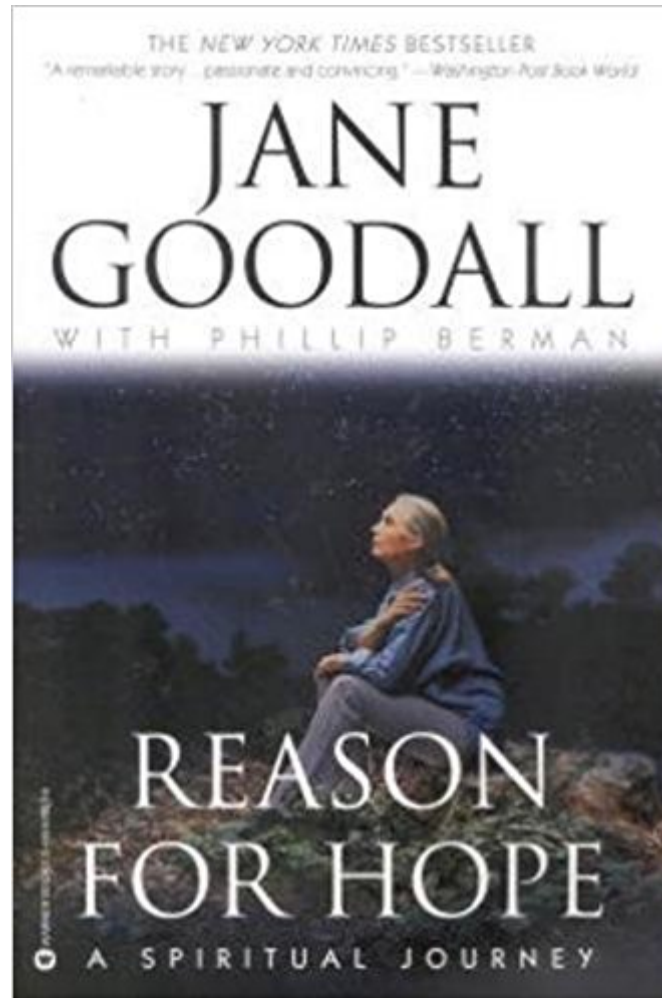




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Reason For Hope: A Spiritual Journey



Synopsis

Dr. Jane Goodall's revolutionary study of chimpanzees in Tanzania's Gombe preserve forever altered the very definition of humanity. Now, in a poignant and insightful memoir, Jane Goodall explores her extraordinary life and personal spiritual odyssey, with observations as profound as the knowledge she has brought back from the forest.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

As a young woman, Jane Goodall was best known for her groundbreaking fieldwork with the chimpanzees of Gombe, Africa. Goodall's work has always been controversial, mostly because she broke the mold of research scientist by developing meaningful relationships with her "specimens" and honoring their lives as she would other humans. Now at the age of 60, she continues to break the mold of scientist by revealing how her research and worldwide conservation institutes spring from her childhood callings and adult spiritual convictions. Reason for Hope is a smoothly written memoir that does not shy away from facing the realities of environmental destruction, animal abuse, and genocide. But Goodall shares her antidote to the poison of despair with specific examples of why she has not lost faith. For instance, she shares her spiritual epiphany during a visit to Auschwitz; her bravery in the face of chimpanzee imprisonment in medical laboratories; and devotes a whole chapter to individuals, corporations, and countries that are doing the right thing. But most of all Goodall provides a beautifully written plea for why everyone can and must find a reason for hope. --Gail Hudson --This text refers to the Audio Cassette edition.

The world's most famous, and perhaps most beloved, female scientist has previously related much of her life's outer journey—most notably in *In the Shadow of Man* and *Through a Window*, which described her groundbreaking work with the chimpanzees of Gombe, in Africa. In this marvelous book, however, Goodall reveals—with clarity, great passion and purpose—her inner journey. How invigorating it is to read the memoir of a scientist who proclaims frankly, and in language often infused with power and grace (a nod to Goodall's coauthor Berman, author of *The Journey Home*, etc.), an abiding faith in the sacredness of all life. Goodall, who's 65, covers her entire life here, from her earliest years in England, raised by a strong and loving family, through her apprenticeship under Louis Leakey and her years at Gombe, to her more recent work as an activist for environmental causes and animal rights. There are passages that verge on the mystical ("I and the chimpanzees, the earth and trees and air, seemed to merge, to become one with the spirit power of life itself"), a scattering of not terrific poems and great swaths of rapturous nature writing. The book's tone is highly emotional, sometimes sentimental, but Goodall is no naïf. A chapter entitled "The Roots of Evil" describes her shocking discovery of chimps' capacity for cannibalistic attacks on members of their own community; "Death" details her despair at the suffering and demise of her husband, Derek, from cancer. Despite the darkness, however, throughout her life's adventures—and there are enough, in jungle and city, to make this book viscerally as well as morally thrilling—Goodall has nurtured a fundamental understanding that goodness can prevail, with each person's help. This is a moving and inspiring book that will be treasured by all concerned about the fate of the planet and its inhabitants. 16 pp. of b&w photos. Simultaneous Warner AudioBook; author tour. (Sept.) Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Audio Cassette edition.

Jane Goodall is a great writer and she really gives you a feel for what it was like to have been her. You want to know what happens to her chimps. I good read for any animal lover.

A beautiful, heartfelt, inspiring and poignant memoir of Jane Goodall's remarkable life. From her nature and animal-loving youth in Bournemouth, England, to the extraordinary adult years she spent researching chimpanzees in Gombe, Africa and ultimately serving as one of the world's most preeminent ambassadors for animal rights and conservation, *Reason for Hope* offers deep insight into the world of Goodall - her triumphs and despairs as well as her own spiritual odyssey and the powerful roles that nature, beauty and God play in her life. This compellingly honest book encourages us to explore and bond with the natural world and to respect and appreciate all living

creatures. It encourages us to act as responsible stewards of the earth and all those with whom we share the planet.

I was always fascinated by Jane Goodall - I have to admit, I didn't know the details of her life and found the book to be more of an autobiography. Here I learned about Jane from her childhood, to how she was chosen to observe the Chimps and what those initial goals were, to how she experienced nature and the chimps. It really made me want to spend a year in the forest and reconnect with how humans have lived for thousands of years. It all seemed like such a soulful experience. Living in a modern city society, it's nice to be reminded that we used to be more connected to the earth, the sights, smells, animals, weather. Easy to read and highly recommended!

This book was so very interesting! Jane Goodall has spent a lifetime studying Chimpanzees and that, in and of itself is fascinating. However, it isn't just a book about Chimpanzees and conservation. It is a book about spirituality. I learned volumes from this amazing woman! I will re-read this book off and on for the rest of my life. It's no wonder when you say the name Jane Goodall, EVERYONE knows who she is. She is a powerful force for good for this planet and I am very grateful I read this book!

I found this an enjoyable read, although Ms. Goodall's pacing is at times a bit slow to follow. Her anecdotes regarding her work really help to define who she is and why she's made working with primates her life's work.

Jane Goodall is a very special human being and generous beyond belief. She has lived her way through many of life's hardest trials and challenges but keeps her focus in spite of it all.. Not only that but she shares so openly the pathway to regain your footing when tragedy and death do their best to flatten you.

This is a wonderful book. I learned so much about her world. She also tells about living in England during WW2

This book provided a unique blend of religion meets science. Jane Goodall gave a really special perspective of living a life where you believe in both evolution and God.

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