The children’s book Gorilla was written and illustrated by Anthony Browne, is a fiction picture book published by Walker Books in 2002, this story has a brilliant lesson to be learned by the parents but could have been told better, reading through the story its long and bland, the reader’s attention to the book will fade and get lost especially considering it a book for children, should have been more exciting?

The book talks about a little girl who sadly never gets to spend time with her busy dad or what we assume to be busy, and a mother whom they never even mention. This story is short and straight forward to the point, it will make the reader think about whether their parents are spending enough time with them or not, they will compare themselves to the little girl in the book. The little girl in this story is what I consider spoilt, she has an obsession over gorillas, for her birthday she asks for a REAL gorilla but only receives a toy gorilla being upset she throws her new toy in the corner of the room instead of appreciating it, like most kids do they will see how she behaves and copy it. Monkey see monkey do. 

Sadly the pictures in the book aren’t very appealing to the eye. They have used dark dull colours maybe to try and set a sad mood for the reader or to tell the time of day but almost every page has a depressing colour choice and drawings dark greens and browns don’t appeal to children, in the end of the book she is happy cause the girl gets what she wants but the sad mood doesn’t change the book gives the idea that she is still sad. But she’s not. Comparing the drawings form the book Old Ridley to Gorilla they have positively proved that you don’t have to have dark horrible colours to set a sad mood. On some pages they have used dark gloomy colours but the style of drawing makes it fit in well to the picture and the setting of the story. I think the pictures in Old Ridley are fantastic and appealing to children! They are bold, creative and they have been drawn around the writing of the story.

If I had the choice to buy this story for my child, I wouldn’t. Sadly it would encourage the child to behave like the girl in the story, the story has horrible manners and the book seems like a depressing experience I wouldn’t recommend for any child.

By Rebecca Vaughan. ☺