

***Mike and a Lynx Named Kitty***

Mike Kerr

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Reviewed by Debra Gaynor for Reader Views (10/06)

In “Mike and a Lynx Named Kitty,” Mike Kerr generously shares a bit of himself. He begins with an introduction to life in Alaska and facts about a Lynx. Mike Kerr was born and raised in Alaska; he fished commercially in the 30’s and 40’s. Boys began fishing, trapping and hunting at the early age of five or six. It was on such a trip that Mike found an orphaned lynx kitten.

One day Mike is told that he must stay at camp and watch the dinner. He hears the sound of a kitten. It’s not a domestic kitten but a small weak lynx. So begins a unique friendship. Mike must make a very hard decision between his love for Kitty and the need to return him to the wild.

This is a book about love, self-sacrifice, and maturing. Mike teaches us to respect nature and wildlife. He shows that we have a responsibility to nature. Mike knew from the moment he found the kitten that someday he would have to return him to the wild.

This is a heart-warming tale. The illustrations add much to this beautiful story. From the moment I saw the cover I was hooked. I could barely wait to open this treasure chest with the promise of literary treasures inside. I was not disappointed. It is a delight to find a story that teaches morals and values in an interesting way. As a reading coach, I search for books such as this one; they are hard to find. My students will delight in the story. I highly recommend “Mike and a Lynx Named Kitty” for children and adults alike. Mr. Kerr, thank you for sharing a piece of your childhood with your readers.