

The Petit Proust Questionnaire

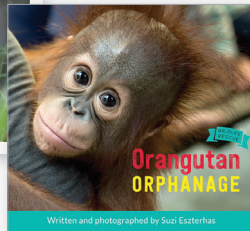
from Owlkids Books

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Meet author **Suzi Eszterhas**



978-1-77147-140-4
\$18.95 CDN / \$17.95 US



978-1-77147-141-1
\$18.95 CDN / \$17.95 US

SUZI ESZTERHAS is an award-winning wildlife photographer based in California. She is passionate about helping wildlife and has even participated firsthand in the rescue of several animals! Her photographs have been published in books, magazines, and newspapers all over the world, including *National Geographic*, *Ranger Rick*, and *TIME*. Visit her website atsuzieszterhas.com and find her on Twitter as @SuziEszterhas.

Koala Hospital is the first in the 4-book Wildlife Rescue series. It features a koala rescue center in Australia where sick, injured, and orphaned koalas are rehabilitated for return to the wild. Stunning photos by Suzi Eszterhas bring readers up close to the adorable koala patients.

Orangutan Orphanage is the second book in the Wildlife Rescue series. It invites readers inside a care center for orphaned baby orangutans in Borneo, operated by Orangutan Foundation International.

When you were a kid, what was your favorite thing to do?

My favorite thing to do was to spend time with animals. I grew up with five dogs and three cats, and I loved playing and snuggling with them. But I also liked to just watch the wild animals in my backyard — squirrels, birds, deer, raccoons, skunks, and more.

What did you most dislike doing when you were a child?

I didn't really like school. I was an A student, but I was shy with the other kids and really just wanted to be at home, with animals!

As a child, where did you dream of living?

In Africa, in a tent!

What did you think you were good at when you were a kid?

Reading and writing.

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When you were a kid in school, what did you look for in a friend?

Kindness.

What did you want to be when you grew up?

I wanted to have a job where I could work with animals. At first I thought I would be a wildlife researcher, like Jane Goodall. But then I discovered wildlife photography and I was hooked.

What was your favorite book as a child?

I read *Gorillas in the Mist* when I was about ten years old and loved it.

What is your favorite pastime now?

It's still spending time with animals. And I usually have a camera in my hand.

What do you find an absolute chore?

Anything that has to do with math and numbers.

If you could live anywhere, where would you go?

Nowhere. I would be right here in California.

What is the one talent you wish you had?

I wish I could dance.

What makes a good friend?

Someone that makes you smile, cares about you, and is kind.

If you weren't an author or illustrator, what job would you have?

I would do something else with animals — maybe work in a wildlife rescue hospital.

What children's books have caught your attention lately?

The Sea of Sleep by Warren Hanson.

If you had to have a motto, what would it be?

Follow your dreams.

