

The Elephants Come Home by Kim Tomsic illustrated by Hadley Hooper. The amazing true story of a herd of elephants, the man who saved them, and the miracle of love that brought them home. One day in 1999, Lawrence Anthony and Françoise Malby Anthony receive word that a herd of wild African elephants need a new home. They welcome the elephants to their wildlife sanctuary—Thula Thula. But the elephants are much less sure they want to stay. How will Lawrence prove to them that they are safe and loved? What follows is a gorgeously illustrated real-life story of friendship . . . and the story of the miraculous way that love given freely will return—greater and more wonderful than it began. (Chronicle Books, May 18, 2021) ISBN: 978-1452127835

Awards & Critical Praise:

- 2022 Norman A. Sugarman Children's Biography Honor Award
- 2022 Pennsylvania Keystone to Reading Book Award Winner
- 2023 Minnesota Comstock-Gág Book Award Winner
- 2022 Blue Grass Award Finalist
- 2022-23 Alabama Children's Choice Camellia Award Finalist grades 2-3
- 2023-24 California Young Reader Award Finalist
- 2023-24 Iowa Goldfinch Award Finalist
- 2024 Utah Beehive Award Finalist
- 2024 Connecticut Nutmeg Award Finalist
- 2024 Illinois Bluestem Award Finalist grades 3-5
- "In brief action-packed sentences, Tomsic informs readers of all the steps taken to bring [the elephants] back, with the text placed against Hooper's beautifully realized illustrations of African animals and the vast, gorgeous landscape...with its focus on the elephants and the protagonists, this book is lovely, tender, and moving." —*Kirkus Reviews*

This touching true story portrays conservationist Lawrence Anthony's relationship with a frightened, hunted herd that found a home at his reserve in South Africa, Thula Thula..The importance of conservation shines through the friendship story here, and both themes are beautifully complemented by Hooper's detailed, atmospheric drawings of the elephants and their surroundings."—*Booklist*

"The illustrations are expansive with a limited color palette of warm oranges and cool greens and blues. The animal characters are dynamic, humorous, and emotive...A sentimental but high-interest story based on true events of the bond between wild animals and the humans who care for them."

—School Library Journal

"The story's flawless, gentle pacing illuminates the animals' initial fear and the time, patience, and compassion it takes for attentive Lawrence to earn their trust...shades of rich blue and soft rose heighten the story's emotional impact."—*Horn Book Magazine*

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