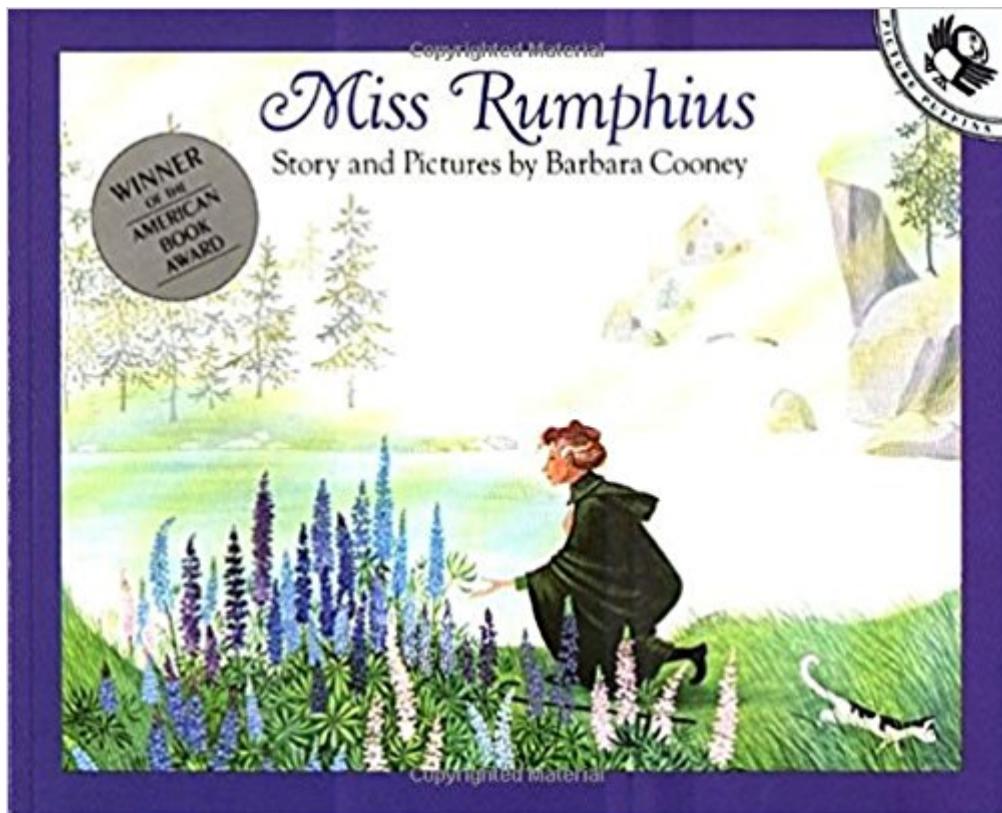


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# Miss Rumphius



## **Synopsis**

Alice made a promise to make the world a more beautiful place, then a seed of an idea is planted and blossoms into a beautiful plan. This beloved classic and celebration of nature—written by a beloved Caldecott winner—is lovelier than ever! Barbara Cooney's story of Alice Rumphius, who longed to travel the world, live in a house by the sea, and do something to make the world more beautiful, has a timeless quality that resonates with each new generation. The countless lupines that bloom along the coast of Maine are the legacy of the real Miss Rumphius, the Lupine Lady, who scattered lupine seeds everywhere she went. Miss Rumphius received the American Book Award in the year of publication. The illustrations have been reoriginated, going back to the original art to ensure state-of-the-art reproduction of Cooney's exquisite artwork. The art for Miss Rumphius has a permanent home in the Bowdoin College Museum of Art.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 0680 (What's this?)

Series: Picture Puffins

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books; 1 edition (November 6, 1985)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0140505393

ISBN-13: 978-0140505399

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.1 x 9.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 371 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,901 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in Books > Reference > English as a Second Language #88 in Books > Children's Books > Classics #222 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## **Customer Reviews**

Like Miss Rumphius, the late Barbara Cooney traveled the world, lived in a house by the sea in Maine, and, through her art, made the world more beautiful. A two-time Caldecott Medal winner, Cooney is known for beautifully illustrated books such as her adaptation of Chaucer's The Nun

Preist's Tale (Caldecott Winner, 1959), and A Miss Rumphius, winner of both the American Book Award and a New York Times citation in 1982.

We read this book the first week of school in sixth grade and do a writing assignment on how students would make our community a better or more beautiful place. We follow through by planting 150-200 bulbs each year and by participating in the citizen science tulip planting with Jouney North. (You can google it.) Then we read it again at the end of the year and do the same writing prompt. Students can compare their August writing to their June writing and see (I hope!) lots of improvement.

This was one of my favorite books as a kid. If I remember correctly, I first saw this on Reading Rainbow and then checked it out from the library after that. I loved the illustrations and the message, which is to do something that makes the world a better place. This is a wonderful storybook and my daughter loves it too. Even though she's only 3 I can tell that she is trying to understand the concepts, but mostly she's enjoying the pictures. Probably better for elementary aged children (my teacher read this to us in 2nd or 3rd grade and we did a little unit on it) but could definitely be good for young ones too, since it's a sweet story.

Love this book with the message, help make the world a more beautiful place. The illustrations are captivating and Miss Rumphius has some wonderful adventures before settling down for her own contribution to the world. Gave it for a baby library shower present. It was much admired as it was passed around. My own children loved it when they were young. Judging from their grown-up careers (a teacher and a film-maker) I think they heard the book's message.

This is a lovely story about fulfilling your childhood hopes, journeying the world, and then coming home to figure out how to make the world more beautiful--and finding that something as simple as flowers can spread joy. The story is told in such a lovely, soothing cadence that it is a perfect bedtime or calm-down story. My four year olds ask for it often.

This story is delightful and the pictures very engaging. I read it to my granddaughter when she was little - she is 22 now and still remembers this book with great affection. Which is why I bought this copy. She was explaining to her new husband about the "Lupine Lady" when they were on a visit to Yosemite and she told me she'd forgotten some of the details. I was so happy to see this book was

still available! I bought a copy and sent it to her so she could share "The Lupine Lady" with her husband and perhaps her children later on!! (When she has them! HA!)

Purchased for toddler b/c we loved Ox Cart Man. Barbara Cooney's illustrations do not disappoint. My 3 yr. old was a little confused by the various names Miss Rumphius has through out the story and the fact that a girl named Alice is narrating a story about her aunt Alice, but she thoroughly enjoys saying 'Miss Rumphius' and I know this story will be in our library for years to come.

In a nutshell: Miss Rumphius is the story of a little girl who's grandfather tells her there are three things she must do when she grows up: go to faraway places, live beside the sea, and do something to make the world more beautiful. Through the story, she grows-up and works as a librarian, visits Indonesia and climbs mountains, and then somewhere near North Africa, hurts her back. So she moves to a picturesque cottage by the sea. And finally, to fulfill the third requisite from her grandfather, she sows lupine seeds all around town, making the world a more beautiful place. Families can talk about: What far away places do you want to visit? What is a librarian and what do they do? How does Miss Rumphius fund her world travels? Is it likely she can do this on the savings of a career librarian or is it possible she has a trust-fund? Are lupines native to Maine? If not, what are the dangers of spreading non-native species? What will you do to make the world more beautiful? you know, besides just being cute?

One of our favorite stories. My 3 & 6 year olds love to hear the story about Miss Rumphius, all her adventures & how she figured out how she would "leave the world a bit more beautiful." Beautiful story & illustrations

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