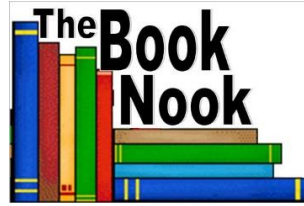


## Virtual Book Nook for Brownies & Juniors



For this on-going activity, a book is chosen for the participants to read. We will give due dates when a section of the book needs to be finished by, so we can then have a live, virtual meeting to discuss that section of the book. After the book is completed we will have another live, virtual meeting to discuss the entirety of the book and what we thought of it. Once we finish a book, we will then choose another one to read and repeat the process!

1. **Book #1** – *The One and Only Ivan* by K. A. Applegate
2. **Book Level** – Brownies & Juniors
3. **Book Summary** - Inspired by the true story of a gorilla, Ivan, who spent 30 years alone in a cage at an indoor zoo in a mall, this beautiful book imagines what Ivan might have felt and said about his life. Ivan does not dwell on his memories as does his friend Stella, an elderly elephant in the cage next door. Still, he remembers his life with his family in the jungle, the death of his sister, and his early days being raised by Max, the owner of the animal show. He also has memories of his long, lonely interment with only a television, a stuffed animal, and a stray dog who sneaks into his concrete cage to sleep on his chest for company. Ivan loves to paint! He can remember making designs on his mother's back as a young ape, and now Max sells his pictures that Ivan creates each day. The custodian's daughter also loves to paint and shares her supplies with Ivan, giving him new ways to express his experiences.

Yet life at the animal show is becoming increasingly distressing. Stella has an infection on her foot that Max ignores because he is low on money. When he purchases a baby elephant, Ruby, to revive interest in the show, both Stella and Ivan are concerned about how he is treating this gentle youngster. Encouraged by Bob, the stray dog, and inspired by Stella, Ivan begins to imagine rescuing not only the baby elephant, but himself. Perhaps his painting is the key. Maybe he can use it to change the animals' lives forever. These unforgettable characters overflow with pain and love in an ultimately hopeful story about the healing power of art.

#### 4. **Meeting Schedule**

First Meeting

Tuesday, April 28, 2020

4:00 pm to 5:00 pm



Chapters: Hello to Once Upon a Time

Email: Michele Diamanti at [mdiamanti@girlscoutshh.org](mailto:mdiamanti@girlscoutshh.org) for Zoom Link

Second Meeting

Monday, May 11, 2020

4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Chapters: The Grunt of the Silverback to the End of the Book

Email: Michele Diamanti at [mdiamanti@girlscoutshh.org](mailto:mdiamanti@girlscoutshh.org) for Zoom Link

5. **How to Obtain Book** – Many local libraries offer free online book rentals. Check with your local library to see if they have the book available. Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and other online retailers have the book available for purchase in print and digital copy.