



## RAR 48 – Give Your Child the World, Jamie Martin

“I really want my kids to love the world so that one day, in their own unique and individual ways, to feel empowered to change and heal it however they’re called to do that.”

**Sarah:** That was Jamie Martin, author of the brand new book *Give Your Child the World – Raising Globally Minded Kids One Book at a Time* and today we’re taking on what it means to give the kids the world right from our cozy living rooms. Stay tuned.

**Sarah:** Well, hello, hello, Sarah Mackenzie here, your host for the Read Aloud Revival podcast. Are you surprised to see us here already this morning? We’re really seeing this podcast Episode a whole week early because we wanted to share about a brand new book which releases today, June 7, 2016 without delay. I know you’re going to love it and I couldn’t wait to tell you about it. We’ll get into that in just a minute.

This podcast is a production of the Read Aloud Revival Membership Community, the place to be, for parents who want their kids to fall in love with books. The membership community features the best master class training available on the web, for homeschoolers and intentional parents seeking to build their family culture around books. And it offers kids a chance every single month to meet and be inspired by some of today’s best authors and illustrators like David Macaulay, Avi, Shannon Hale, and more. For more information and how you can get in on all the best that the Read Aloud Revival has to offer head to [RARMembership.com](http://RARMembership.com).

Now let’s head over to my conversation with Jamie Martin and stick around until the end

because we make an announcement about something we’ve teamed up on for the summer that you are NOT going to want to miss! Ready? Let’s do it!

Jamie Martin jokes that her family is sort of like a mini United Nations. She met her British husband, Steve, more than 20 years ago in England and together, they’re the parents to a biological son as well as two adopted children. So her three kids were born on three different continents. With that kind of background plus a love for travel it’s sort of a natural fit that Jamie would be interested in literature from around the world but as you’ll hear today rich literature is one of the main things that brought Jamie’s family together when she was a mom of three littles, and just beginning to navigate homeschooling. You might know Jamie best as the editor of the very popular Simple Homeschool website which you can find at [SimpleHomeschool.net](http://SimpleHomeschool.net) or from one of her many books including *Steady Days: A Journey Toward Intentional, Professional Motherhood*. But she’s here today to talk about a new book very special to her heart: *Give Your Child the World – Raising Globally Minded Kids One Book at a Time* is a project five years in the making. It’s a lovingly curated collection of book suggestions for parents, teachers, and care givers that combines history, literature, and geography into one beautiful volume. Think *Honey for a Child’s Heart* written from a global perspective. It’s also the tale of Jamie’s family; how they all met and how stories have continued to bring them closer as a family. Jamie, thank you so much for joining me today on the show.

**Jamie:** Oh my gosh, Sarah, thank you. That was such a great introduction.



**Sarah:** I would love to have you introduce more about your kids and your husband and family life to our listeners.

### 3:30 A little more about Jamie

**Jamie:** Sure, I would love to do that. My husband, Steve, and I have been married for almost 18 years now and like you said, we have three children: Jonathan is our biological son who joined our family first and he's now 11. Then came our son, Elijah, who we adopted from Liberia, West Africa, and he is also currently 11. Technically, Jonathan is six months older but for half the year they're the same age. And then the third child to join our family was our daughter, Trishna, from India, who was the third child to join us but actually became our oldest when she came home at the age of four and by the time this podcast goes up she will have just turned 13, which is pretty wild. We live in New Town, Connecticut, a gorgeous little town in the countryside and right now we rent a nearly 200 year old farmhouse on five acres and we just love it out here.

**Sarah:** I didn't realize you lived in a farmhouse I guess. I don't know how I missed that.

**Jamie:** We just love it out here. It's beautiful and peaceful. It's just perfect for us. As far as work goes, Steve is the CEO of an organization called Love146 which works towards the abolition of child trafficking and exploitation around the globe, and my work, like you mentioned, aside from homeschooling the kids is as the writer and editor of the blog SimpleHomeschool.net and author of a few books including Give Your Child the World which is what we're here to chat about today. It seems crazy to think that when listeners

are downloading this Episode they'll actually be able to get their hands on the book.

**Sarah:** I know, it's so exciting! I've got my hands on my galley copy right here.

**Jamie:** Oh, you do?! It's just been so long in the making so this is really special.

### 5:30 Using the library without losing your mind

**Sarah:** For our listeners, Jamie was on the show once before way back in Season Two, she was on Episode 11. We talked about using the library without losing your mind so if you're interested in hearing that episode with Jamie and finding out some tricks and tactics for making the use of your public library without absolutely going crazy with all the struggles that go along with that, head to ReadAloudRevival.com and look for Episode 11. It's right there with all the other podcasts from Season Two.

OK, so you've said that you love to travel and you met your husband overseas. Did you always hope to adopt internationally? Was it something that was in your plan?

### 6:00 Jamie's love of adventure

**Jamie:** Well, I had this big thirst for adventure as a teen, and I really wanted to travel and go exploring and see the world. Really, I wanted to be a full-time missionary one day, so that was kind of my goal as a teen. And then it was on a six-week summer mission trip in 1992 when I was 16 that I first met Steve. And I tell all the details of what happened in the book, but basically when I got home from that trip I told my nana that I had met the person I was going to marry. Of course, not many people believed me and I especially



remember that my dad, in particular, was not really thrilled with the concept.

**Sarah:** I can imagine!

**Jamie:** But six years later we were there at the altar getting married. And we didn't really have any plans to adopt back then. So it wasn't this huge vision all the way from the beginning. Really, it came about later after we had had Jonathan, and were plunged into that beautiful, sleep-deprived, crazy transition that first time parents go through. I think God kind of used that process and really used our new baby boy to touch our hearts and just led us to think of all the children in the world who didn't have someone to do for them what we were doing for Jonathan. So that's what initially led us to start exploring adoption.

**Sarah:** And when you adopted, you adopted pretty close together, is that right?

**Jamie:** That's right. The kids are all very close in age, so there is less than 22 months, so less than two years. And then we added them all to the family in less than three years. So Jonathan was born in 2004, then Elijah 2005 came to us, then Trishna in 2007.

**Sarah:** So by 2007 you had three kids that were four and under? Did I do that math right?

**Jamie:** That's right, four, three, and two.

**Sarah:** Wow. That's a lot!

**Jamie:** It was a lot.

**Sarah:** OK, you've talked before how as a young mom you've really used stories to knit your family together. Tell me more about that.

## 8:15 Stories knit the family together

**Jamie:** Well, as far as that goes, I think really at first I just used stories to keep everyone quiet for 10 minutes at a time.

**Sarah:** I understand that!

**Jamie:** I'm not really sure it started out as this lofty goal, but purely a practical one of "How can we pass this short unit of time?" But as a lifelong book lover it felt really natural to me to turn to books and to want to share them with the kids. Like you say, to build our family culture and our days at home around these stories that could provide key anchors that we could count on at certain times in the day. But then as the kids got a little bit older and we weren't in so much survival mode, I started to want to use books to connect us with these different cultures that were going to be a part of our lives forever. And since we couldn't travel then, the kids were too young, we didn't have the money, it wasn't like we could go on major explorations, we needed a way to add that cultural dimension to our lives, and I found that we could easily do that using books, so that's really where it all started.

## 9:30 Giving your child a taste of the wider world from home

**Sarah:** I love that idea of being able to give your child the world right from your living room, right from your cozy couch at home. So, we have a mutual friend, Tsh Oxenreider, who was on the podcast way back at the beginning on Episode 3, and she took her kids on this epic journey around the world last year which I loved following, and I have all kinds of envy about it, of course, because who wouldn't? But I have a house full of



toddlers at the moment so that would not work well with twin two year olds, but I kept thinking to myself, stories would be such a beautiful way - of intentionally reading stories – to give my children a peek through the window to these other parts of the world right from home, so even if you’re in a situation where you can’t take your kids to the far east or to Europe or to the next state over, there’s a way to peek through the windows of the other parts of the world and I love what you’ve done with the book. What were some of the books and stories that were most meaningful to your family early on?

**Jamie:** Well, when I just found out I was pregnant with Jonathan, so when he was still in the womb, I bought a book that I know you and I both love and you already mentioned it, Honey for a Child’s Heart. It’s such a delightful book about books and so when I was just starting out and had no clue about what kid’s books were popular then or what was good, that really got me started creating our home library and I just loved knowing this author who I trusted, Gladys Hunt, she’d gone through and done all the work for me and picked the best of all that was out there. So that’s what I really used as my framework for choosing stories in the early years when you’re talking about the general kind of classics. But globally, the first book I really remember inspiring me to give my children the world was a book called, Children Just Like Me by Anabel and Barnabas Kindersley.

**Sarah:** I don’t think I’ve seen that one.

**Jamie:** Oh my gosh, you have to get that. It’s like a photographic tour of kids all around the world, and each page gives you a snapshot of a specific child in a different place. It goes on to tell about their family, their school, their food, just so much fun information, it’s really colorful. And when the

kids were little we used to read maybe one or two pages a day, so it just fit into our routine. So it was a part of our life for a few years. And the kids grew up with that book, so I have all kinds of nostalgic feelings when I think back about it. That’s the kind of book that started the whole thing for us.

**Sarah:** I just put it in my Amazon cart while you were talking!

**Jamie:** Yes!

**Sarah:** I do most of my Amazon buying while I’m talking to podcast guests.

**Jamie:** I bet, I bet. That’s dangerous.

**Sarah:** My husband should start confiscating, locking down the Amazon account when I hop on the microphone. ... I love that you call your family a mini United Nations, it just cracks me up. How do you celebrate the many traditions and heritages and culture backgrounds that you have right under your own roof?

### 12:30 Celebrating different cultural traditions

**Jamie:** Well, we’ve added different things over the years. The one practice that has been a constant for us is celebrating these cultural days that we do to honor our family members and all the places we come from. So, we celebrate Trishna India Day and Elijah Liberia Day. Those are on the anniversary of the days we first met them. And we also have England Day which is on Steve’s birthday and we celebrate America Day, we call it, on Jonathan’s half birthday. Which, technically, I’m supposed to share but I don’t get much credit on that day.

**Sarah:** You’re the mom!



**Jamie:** So when it's someone's day we put up a big flag of their country in the dining room and we either make or buy a traditional meal from that place, we listen to music. Trishna and Elijah even have special clothes they like to wear from India and Liberia, and I go into this in a bit more in depth in Give Your Child the World as a practice that anyone really can implement, to celebrate a place that you love, that you've been, or a culture that's in your ancestry, or something like that. Really, anybody can do that. We've loved doing that.

**Sarah:** That sounds like the kind of memories that your kids are going to treasure more than any other. I can see them looking back on their childhood and going, "This was one of my most treasured moments in my childhood" so I think that's amazing that you make time and space to do that. I am not the best birthday mom even, so to make time and space to celebrate another big event.

**Jamie:** It's not big, and that's the really important part of it. Too much logistics scares me off. So really, the first year of doing it, it required a bit more forethought in that we had to order the flags, or see what kind of music we have. But now, we really just get the stuff out. The night before "Oh my gosh, tomorrow is Elijah Liberia Day" so I don't want to set it up as some epic thing. It's really low key is the key that makes it really happen as opposed to get shoved to the side. Now it's pretty easy to find music or youtube or anything like that. So really only the first year requires a bit of prep. And after that, especially if you do, we always do take out, especially for India because we have a great Indian restaurant close by. So that's simple and that really is the key, it doesn't have to be major, or it just won't happen.

**Sarah:** Right after we moved to where we live now in the Inland Northwest I was trying to find ways to figure out new things about our town. And they had this Japanese festival going on when we moved here. I thought that'd be fun, and the kids were four, six, and eight, and so I thought we could just learn about Japan next month, and I thought that'd be fun. So I found a few picture books, and I was surprised at how simple it was really. We went to an event or two that was hosted by the city, at a park where they were doing things like making origami and there were some people that were dressed in some traditional Japanese clothing and some music, and there's a Japanese garden in the town. And then we went out to Japanese food and read some books, and it was like "wow, we had this really rich fall" and when I look back at those pictures I have so many fond memories of that little couple week period.

## 16:10 The original idea for Give Your Child the World

OK, so tell me more about where the idea for Give Your Child the World the book, where that came from, where that was born?

**Jamie:** It's been five years now, so I actually had to think back to try and remember where the idea first came from. Like we talked about a few minutes ago, our mutual love for Honey for a Child's Heart as a resource that helped us to center our day around these inspiring books, and when I started the process of looking for books about other cultures, I felt like really I was more or less on my own to do that research, separate the good from the bad, and decide what was worthwhile and not worthwhile. And that got me thinking about a reading treasury like Honey that would have this multicultural focus, it really



reflects the globally connected world that we live in now, and I knew how much time it would have saved me if I had that, and it would make me feel confident in sharing books with my kids if this trusted voice had given them a stamp of parental approval first. So, eventually I thought, ‘Why don’t I just do that?’

**Sarah:** That’s awesome! I know that for me creating a book list we just did this. We didn’t create this awesome global booklist, we just created a Read Aloud booklist at Read Aloud Revival which ...

**Jamie:** I’ve seen that, it’s a great booklist.

**Sarah:** Thank you. Listeners, you can get it if you haven’t gained access to it, you can grab it at [ReadAloudRevival.com](http://ReadAloudRevival.com), but when I was creating that booklist, it was like anguish. It was very difficult for me, because whenever I would choose something I would realize that meant I couldn’t choose five other books because I was trying to have this kind carefully curative list exactly the way you describe yours, so I’m curious to know how you chose the books and what that process was like for you. Was it anguishing for you too?

## 18:00 The anguish behind the book

**Jamie:** It was. Oh my gosh. There are so many tears invested in the pages in Give Your Child the World because it felt like the never-ending story, the project that was never going to possibly be completed because how can you narrow down the whole world’s worth of books and find out what’s the best and what’s worth including? So it took so long because of all the research involved. But what makes me so happy now for parents who read it, is that it’s saving all that time.

Hopefully your pages won’t be covered with tears like mine were.

**Sarah:** No, you’ve done all the crying for us and the selecting for us and we can just read, right?

**Jamie:** That’s right. It was a labor of love. Definitely the labor part was there as well. So I started by just dividing the world into regions and thinking, ‘OK, how can this be logistically formatted?’ Then I think the first booklist I tackled was the chapter about Africa. So I would start out just spending a lot of time online, just compiling a huge list from blogs, from Goodreads, from bookstores, wherever, just to look for books set in Africa or about Africa as a starting place. But then as I got deeper into it, I wasn’t just looking for books set in a place, but books that I felt conveyed the heart of that area’s culture, the people, and books that have the spirit of a classic. Most of these are not classics in the traditional sense of having been around for a long time or even necessarily being well known but I feel like they have the soul of a classic. They’re inspiring, they lead us to think more deeply, to care about others. So that’s the type of books I was looking for.

## 19:30 The soul of a classic

**Sarah:** I really appreciate that, if I can just interrupt you briefly, because I think we all know what the classics are or there are gazillions of booklists online that will tell us all the books our kids should read or they will not become fully human by the time they leave home – all the mom guilt – but I find it especially helpful to me that someone can tell me a more modern book that’s read, that I can read to my kids, that’s especially a treasure, or a book that is not very well known. I was just recently on the Wild and Free podcast



and I was chatting with Jen Pepito there, and I told her one of our favorite read alouds from the last year was Listening for Lions by Gloria Whelan, which you have in this section set in Africa. Someone sent it to me, and I had never heard of it. I thought, 'Well, this looks good' and it was one of those days I was being really indecisive so I just grabbed it and decided this was going to be our next read aloud, because I plan ahead like that. We started reading it and it's really tragic and beautiful and gorgeous and AMAZING. The book is just a heart, it's an amazing story. It's one of those that I'd never heard of before and when I mentioned it to Jen Pepito she said, "I've never heard of that one." And what a treasure it is to be able to have somebody else say, "You haven't heard of this book but this is one that will really be special for your family." So that's what I think your book does in a special way here. I see a lot of titles on here that I recognize from my own childhood, like Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters and some books about Nelson Mandela and Why Mosquitos Buzz in People's Ears just from the section on Africa. But I also see several titles here that I've never heard of before, so I'm really excited to have this list at my fingertips.

**Jamie:** After the initial research when I had the substantial list of titles to consider, I actually requested all the picture books I could possibly get my hands on from that list from my interlibrary loan program, which actually, half way through the year there was a statewide threat that they were going to cut interlibrary loan, and I think it has a lot to do with my overuse of interlibrary loan, but thankfully that did not happen.

**Sarah:** Oh good!

**Jamie:** So, major kudos to the librarians here in New Town who helped me with all of that and never complained. So I tried to read all of the picture books myself at least as much as was possible. And then I just started to cull through the list of choosing what I felt like was the best. I actually tried at first to read the chapter books too, just because I love books, and I wanted to. Eventually I had to accept that it was going to take me 10 years to write Give Your Child the World if I kept doing that, so instead I tried to discipline myself to just read excerpts online and then also really rely on professional reviews from places like Publishers Weekly and School Library Journal and Booklist.

**Sarah:** Yeah, that's helpful. When I was putting together my booklist I realized we can't have a fantasy section if I have to read them all myself because I have not read very much fantasy and the list I had was pretty sure, I had pretty much carried it from people I trust, would take me probably years to get through, realistically, with all my other reading. So I realized that I just needed to have people I really trusted and who loved fantasy. So, Carolyn Leiloglou who's on the podcast in Episode 41 was a huge help to me, and some other people, just a really big help to me, trying to figure out, 'OK I can't actually read all of these but I know there are other people that we can all band together and help each other to find the best books. So, it sounds like what you did with this.

**Jamie:** Yes, definitely.

**Sarah:** So, tell us a bit about what you mean when you say, the tag line for the book is 'Raising Globally Minded Kids One Book at a Time.' What do you mean when you say "globally minded" kids? What do you think that does?



## 23:45 Raising globally minded kids

**Jamie:** When I think about that, I realize I really want my kids to love the world, so that one day they can, in their own unique and individual ways feel empowered to change and heal it, however they're called to do that. So for me, that's what I really mean when I say 'globally minded.' I feel like we see that little children start out with this natural love for the world and exploring everything. Everything is fascinating, and yet that so often changes as we get older and become more consumed with ourselves with our own problems and we can lose that sense of wonder that once came so naturally. At the same time, we kind of live like never before in this era, when the world is literally at our doorstep because of news and social media. We are always connected to any corner of the planet, and not always in a good way either, because the news often focuses on the negative things going on, and I feel like that can lead to this fear of the world instead of this curiosity that we feel the fear that we can pass it on to our kids and it just continues as a cycle. But I think that we've been given this chance as parents to use what I call 'it's a miracle vaccine' that can boost our kids' immunity to the world's heaviness and that is the power of story. So I feel that through using stories we can connect our kids with people and places on the other side of the world and as they fall deeper in love with these stories, I think it helps them maintain that natural God-given wonder for the world they were born with. So that's what really globally minded boils down to for me.

**Sarah:** That's beautiful.

**Jamie:** Thank you.

**Sarah:** It really is beautiful coming from you because of the work your husband and you do with Love146 all over the world and so it feels to me an incarnation of the book itself; a way that families can actually put boots on the ground and help make the world a better place right from their own living room.

**Jamie:** Yes, I think so. It gives us a chance to become that sort of person. It changes our perspective. Our perspective changes everything because then it changes the way that we act, it changes our calling and what we feel led to do, what we feel capable of doing. So, when I talk in Give Your Child the World about our kids being world changers, I don't necessarily mean that they're going to be the next Nelson Mandela or something lofty like that. What I mean is that through our love for the world we can deepen our compassion which naturally leads us to act out of love and that naturally changes the world, so we all have the ability to be world changers and to raise world changers, and that is what I hope Give Your Child the World does for parents, to just make it easy for them to feel like, 'our family can be world changers and that's what we're called to be and this is a really simple way for us to start.'

## 27:00 The logistics of Give Your Child the World

**Sarah:** So how do you practically, logistically speaking, how do you see families using the book in their homeschool? Not in their homeschool if they don't homeschool but using the book in their family life as parents who are wanting to give their kids that same kind of global perspective?



**Jamie:** Right. I think there are lots of different ways depending on families. And like you said, not just homeschoolers but anyone who wants to raise book lovers and world lovers no matter where they go to school. I kind of see, to me it feels fun to think of people browsing and just “traveling” to places in a book that excite them and excite their kids. So that seems like a really fun way to get started with it. So, right now, we’re using the Asia booklist a lot because of Trishna being from India and we had started reading a book about Amy Carmichael who was a missionary to India recently, and then when that was over we kind of didn’t want to leave India or Asia, so we started to look through the list for more books. What’s kind of fun is that I turned the book into Zondervan, the publisher, almost a year ago, and then I really haven’t seen it all that much or lived with it, so getting it into my hands again now feels like I’m kind of discovering it alongside readers, and it’s fun to be using it in our home. So, I feel like readers can use it informally like that or they can use it more formally to aid their, say for homeschooling families, geography or history studies. I did make several indexes in the back and one is a historical index so that readers can see chronologically when the books takes place as well as where they take place. And my hope is that that will be a help when families are studying history as well.

**Sarah:** I didn’t see that. I’m really excited about that. Now, I see it but somehow I missed it the first time. Very cool. That is going to be really, really helpful.

**Jamie:** I hope so. I’m excited about that too.

## 29:20 Living books to help you study history chronologically

**Sarah:** Especially for those who are trying to study history chronologically, or not chronologically but just certain periods of time at a chunk, but want to give a more global perspective. So I’m thinking of something like Story of the World by Susan Wise Bauer and she really tries to paint this picture of history all across the world. And then here you have basically a list of living books that will help you do that as well.

**Jamie:** Yes. That was my real hope, to give so many options and not say ‘This is the way you should use it’ but to make it simple and then readers can take it from there.

## 30:00 The best endorsement

**Sarah:** So, a little bird told me that I should ask you about a very special endorsement you’ve received for the book. So tell us about that.

**Jamie:** Oh my gosh. Well, I will try to tell you but there’s a chance that I might go all fan-girl on you and just take over and gush on and on for the rest of the podcast, so you’ll have to stop me if I do. Well, I usually do not get all crazy about celebrities, it’s just not my thing. But this is an exception because basically there’s one person that I’ve just always wanted to meet and have the chance to thank them for their work that’s meant so much to me. I really see this person as being partially responsible for the fact that I’m a reader and a book lover, and that is LeVar Burton from Reading Rainbow.

**Sarah:** I love LeVar Burton! Oh my goodness.



**Jamie:** Oh my gosh, who doesn't love LeVar Burton? So the crazy continues in that not only did I have the chance to meet and thank him just a couple of months ago but I was also able to give him an early review copy of Give Your Child the World and amazingly he offered to endorse the book which in all my imagination I could not think of a more fabulous match for this book than his endorsement. So he called Give Your Child the World an invaluable resource for any and everyone who has children in their lives.

**Sarah:** Oh my gosh, that's amazing. You must have been doing somersaults when you got that?

**Jamie:** Oh my gosh, I actually was at Panera Bread when I got it. And a guy who was working there came around the corner at the very moment and he actually came up to me to ask if I was OK.

**Sarah:** You're like, "Do you know who LeVar Burton is? Oh my gosh, did you watch the Reading Rainbow, and oh my goodness, you should see what he just said about my book?"

**Jamie:** I would love to know what my face actually looked like. I am not sure what. My expression clearly said something, I'm not sure what. So, yes, I could not be more grateful. And absolutely over the moon. You know, for those of us who grew up with Reading Rainbow, I mean, over the years they highlighted so many wonderful multicultural titles and now they have this great web version that my kids love called Skybrary that's equally as awesome. So this is just a complete dream come true and miraculous. I'm so blessed and thankful for it.

**Sarah:** We will link of course to the work of LeVar Burton and Reading Rainbow in the show notes and Skybrary, and you'll definitely want to check up, if you haven't heard of or been in touch with Reading Rainbow since you were a child (I'm sure

you all were in touch when you were a child, right?) then check out what they're doing now, because LeVar Burton and the people at Reading Rainbow are really doing some amazing things today, for our kids, for our generation of kids.

**Jamie:** That's right. Totally.

## 32:30 Jamie's family's favorite books

**Sarah:** OK, so out of all those books you poured all this love and blood and sweat and tears into when you were researching to write this book, are there any that stand out especially as favorites?

**Jamie:** That's not really a fair question, Sarah.

**Sarah:** Totally unfair.

**Jamie:** It's like asking someone to choose their favorite kid or something. They're all special to me.

**Sarah:** But I like one a little more today than I did ... she did her chore without asking or me having to tell her.

**Jamie:** Right. Well, there are over 600 to choose from. Let me see if I can at least point out a few favorites. Well, definitely you need a copy of Children Just Like Me which I mentioned earlier because that is a multicultural keeper. You just need it on your shelf long term. Then I thought of this sweet early chapter book which is set in Africa, which is called Anna Hibiscus. Have you heard of that Sarah?

**Sarah:** I have. I have it on our shelf but I'm embarrassed to say that I haven't read it yet.

**Jamie:** This is sweet. You're going to want to pull it off because it is a series about a little girl, her mother is Canadian and her father is African, though they don't specify which country they live



in, but she has twin baby brothers named Double and Trouble.

**Sarah:** Oh, I need to read this book!

**Jamie:** Yes, that's why I thought this one is for you. So, it is hilarious and sweet, but in the midst of it all, all of the action, it just has this beautiful love of Africa. It reminds me a little bit of Millie-Molly-Mandy which is an early chapter book but an African version, very sweet. But that's a definite favorite. I have more.

**Sarah:** Oh good. I was going to cut you off.

**Jamie:** So, then I also thought of a post World War II picture book Boxes from Katje. That takes place in the Netherlands, and I thought of that because didn't you just have Candace Fleming on for a Membership ... what do you call that?

**Sarah:** Author Access Event. Yes! We did. So for all of you listening, Candace Fleming has written a lot of wonderful books. Books you'd recognize if you saw the covers of or that you might have on your shelf, like Muncha! Muncha! Muncha! or Oh, No! I just saw Oh, No! at the grocery store yesterday and had a little ... I kind of have a fan-girl moment when I see, authors I've talked to and had conversations with, their books at the grocery store. That feels pretty cool. But she's written this amazing book called, Boxes for Katje and we loved this book so much at the Revival that we created this whole book club kit to help whole families, no matter what age the child, celebrate the book and kind of dig out what it had for each age, and then we had Candace Fleming on inside Read Aloud Revival membership and Author Access Event so the kids in our community were able to ask her questions and get them answered live on screen. She was so delightful. In fact, you know what, I will pull out the portion of that where she's

reading aloud Boxes from Katje and we'll put it in the show notes so you can all watch her reading the book, because it's a really sweet book.

**Jamie:** Ah, that would be so great!

**Sarah:** Yeah, so if you want to watch Candace Fleming reading Boxes for Katje head over to ReadAloudRevival.com and look for Episode 48.

**Jamie:** So, Rickshaw Girl is a book that we recently finished as a read aloud and it is set in Bangladesh. We really enjoyed this. It's a perfect pick of ages 8-10 and maybe even upwards, because we just finished reading it a couple of weeks ago. It just had a lot of really thoughtful questions about poverty, and we really enjoyed that, the kids and I did. So then the last one I wanted to make sure I mentioned is the series, Audrey of the Outback which is kind of like Australia's Pippa Longstocking meets Ramona Quimby.

**Sarah:** Oh my, that sounds fantastic. I have an Audrey too, so I might have to get that one.

**Jamie:** So that's definitely another one to love. Oh these make me so happy.

**Sarah:** I'm over here just clicking away on Amazon.

**Jamie:** I guess I should have to stop there.

## 37:00 Read the World Summer Book Club

**Sarah:** You better, otherwise my cart's about to explode. OK, I'm really excited to tell everybody about a project you and I have teamed up to make happen this summer. It's the Read the World Summer Book Club. It's basically a really simple way for parents to give their kids a global tour through literature all this summer. Do you



want to talk a little bit about what that's going to look like?

**Jamie:** Yes. I'm so excited. It's going to take your kids all around the world right from your living rooms, and there'll be interactive, and there'll be prizes and downloads and videos and it will just be really fun. So we'll be sharing all the specifics of that next week after this podcast airs, and you can come to SimpleHomeschool.net on Monday, June 13 or ReadAloudRevival.com and find out all the details.

**Sarah:** Yep, exactly. We'll have all the details posted June 13, and then the actual Book Club begins June 27, so that will give you a little bit of time. You won't need to do a lot of prep, just collect a couple of books and kind of get your bearings on what that's going to look like.

**Jamie:** Yes, and for now if you just get your copies of Give Your Child the World you'll be all set to start.

**Sarah:** Exactly. Yes, so what we're going to be doing is taking you through a literature tour every week. You'll be able to read a book from another part of the world and using Jamie's book Give Your Child the World is going to be a really simple way to do that. I think you're going to love it. It's actually available today, the day we're airing this podcast, June 7. So we'll have links in the show notes where you can grab the brand new copies of Give Your Child the World – Raising Globally Minded Kids One Book at a Time so if you want to find that you just need to head to ReadAloudRevival.com and look at Episode 48 and we'll have links there for you. Before we go, tell everyone where they can find out more about you and find your work. I know we've mentioned SimpleHomeschool.net but where else would you like them to go to find, to connect with you?

**Jamie:** Well, you can find me on Facebook as well. It's SimpleHomeschool and we have a really active, fun community. It's SimpleHomeschool is where you can find that on Facebook and the blog, and that's pretty much where I hang out.

**Sarah:** Perfect. Thank you so much for joining me today, Jamie. I'm so excited to get your book into the hands of our listeners.

### 39:00 Let the kids speak

Now it's time for Let the Kids Speak. This is my favorite part of the podcast, where kids tell us about their favorite stories that have been read aloud to them.

**Child1:** My name is Katiya, and I live in California and I'm seven. And my favorite book is Narnia, The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe. My favorite part is when Lucy goes in the wardrobe.

**Child2:** I'm Madison Rogers. I live in California and I'm ten years old. I like The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe, and I like when the kids and the beavers have to run away from the witch's wolves and Mrs. Beaver says, "I'm pretty sure my sewing machine is too heavy to bring along."

**Child3:** My name is Sally and I live in Missouri and my favorite book is Amelia Bedilia. And my favorite part is when she tries to put Mrs. Roger's coffee mixed with cereal together.

**Child4:** Hi, my name is Lydia, I am six and a half years old. I live in Indianapolis, Indiana. My favorite read aloud was Begin it's the first in the Growly Bear books. I like it because it's an adventure and mystery.

**Child5:** Hi, my name is Aaron. I'm eight and a half years old. I live in Indianapolis, Indiana. My favorite read aloud my dad read to me was Harry



Potter and the Chamber of Secrets because it's magical and has monsters like a giant basilisk.

**Child6:** My name is Nora and I live in Alberta, Canada. I'm seven years old. My favorite book is Matilda by Roald Dahl and my favorite part about it is when Matilda uses her brain power to make the chalk on the chalkboard at school write by itself.

**Child7:** G'day, my name is Riley. And I am 11 years old. I live in Newcastle, Australia. My favorite read aloud is the Ramose Series: Prince in Exile by Carole Wilkinson. It is set in ancient Egypt. I like it because it is full of adventure.

**Child8:** Hello everybody, my name is Trishna Martin, and when this podcast releases I will be 13. I live in Connecticut with my family. One of the best things about it is that my mom, she wrote Give Your Child the World which is pretty awesome, and I've heard it's very popular. One of my favorite books that I've been reading is called Boys Without Names. This book takes place in India which is my home country. One of the things I've learned from it is that many people in India live in poverty and that makes me think one day when I grow up I would like to help with those people. If you want to learn more about India you can look up Boys Without Names and Give Your Child the World. Thank you, goodbye.

**Child9:** Hi, I'm Elijah Martin and I'm 11. My mom wrote this book called, Give Your Child the World and my favorite book from Give Your Child the World is... It's about this boy name Yuli who finds this panda in the woods. If you like animals I can guarantee you will like this book, it's from China.

**Child10:** Hello, my name is Jonathan Martin and I live in Connecticut and I'm 11. My mom wrote Give Your Child the World which is a wonderful resource for mothers all around the world. My

favorite book from Give Your Child the World is the Unfinished Angel. It takes place in Switzerland. I think you'll enjoy this book because I know I did. Bye.

**Sarah:** Wonderful kids. Oh my goodness. So many books right out of Give Your Child the World this time. That's really fun. I love hearing about books from all different parts of the world. And I loved all of your recommendations. We absolutely love hearing from the kids in our community. So if your kids haven't had a chance yet, head to ReadAloudRevival.com, scroll to the bottom of the page and have them leave us a message about a book they have loved. It doesn't have to be a perfect message, they can stutter and stumble, and anything else, leave big long pauses or say the same thing over and over again. We love hearing from them and we would love to feature them on the Read Aloud Revival.

Season 10 of the Read Aloud Revival will start back up with a bang with Episode 50 in September of 2016. We've already lined up some stellar guests for that season. It's going to be such a good season. I cannot wait. For now friends, don't forget to check out the show notes for today's Episode on the podcast at ReadAloudRevival.com, just look for Episode 48 and until next time, go build your family culture around books.