

# A trip worth taking

**Title:** Adventure at Brimstone Hill

**Author:** Carol Ottley-Mitchell

**Illustrated by:** Ann-Catherine Loo

**Reviewed by:** Shaunette Jones

**Reviewer's Rating:** 3 out of 5 stars

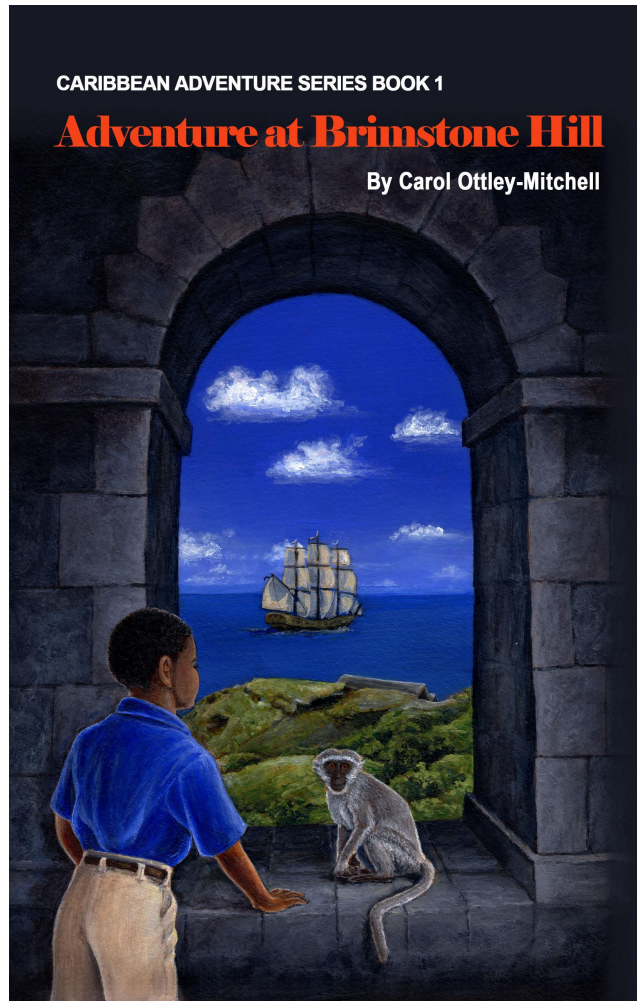
BOYS AND GIRLS, this is one adventure that will have you on the edge of your seats. It has time travel, forts, battleships, moon-lit waters, winding roads and a monkey called Chee Chee. There are generals, an admiral, a war between the British and French and lots of Caribbean history. Learning and fun tied into one simple read. What more can you ask for?

Mark had been anticipating his class trip to Brimstone Hill for a very long time, and now it was finally here. He heads off to school to meet the bus and joins his best friend Kyle and Miss-Know-It-All Ingrid, anxious for the trip to begin. Filled with delight, Mark enjoys the journey going up the winding road, but things take a wrong turn because Chee Chee, Mark's pet monkey, has decided to tag along. The monkey's presence distracts Mark (and Ingrid) so much that they disobey a 'Do Not Enter' sign at the fort and plunge into the 18th century.

## HELPING THE BRITISH

They meet strange generals and spend a whole night in the past.

Mark and Ingrid, along with Chee Chee who rescues a satchel from the sea, eventually end up helping the British win a war against the French. The adventure is complete



when Chee Chee rings the Brimstone's bell before the children leave the fort.

Chee Chee is that one character who brings humour to the story. He is a Vervet monkey, described as "a small creature, with a sooty black face and covered with short, brown hair. Chee Chee is about 10 inches long, with a tail almost as long as his body." He's quite intelligent and understands Mark's every word. So involved is Chee Chee in Mark's life, he expects to go with him everywhere. Thus, he turns a school trip into an adventure for Mark and Ingrid.

There are only a few illustrations throughout the entire book, but don't get sad. Ottley-Mitchell knows the power of the mind and

the power of words.

She also understands a child's need for thrill and excitement. Her words paint pictures only the mind can see. Each chapter will stretch the imagination. The author has left it up to her readers to envision the characters and create the scenes.

The book can be read in one sitting.

## ONE PAGE BIBLIOGRAPHY

Adventure at Brimstone Hill carries at the back a one-page bibliography, a small map of St. Kitts and Nevis and a section explaining the facts and fiction of the story.

Author Carol Ottley-Mitchell lives and works in St. Kitts-Nevis. She has a love for reading, children and the history of her island home. This love has led her to create the Caribbean Adventure Series. Adventure at Brimstone Hill is the first book in the series. Ann-Catherine Loo is the book's illustrator.

