Ako the Aye-Aye

Authors Alison Jolly and Hantanirina Rasamimanana
Illustrated by Deborah Ross
Designed by Melanie McElduff
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Ako the aye-aye was fast asleep in his mother’s nest with his tail over his nose.

The full moon rose out of the sea beyond Ako’s home in Tampolo Forest on the eastern coast of Madagascar.
They ran up the frond of a coconut palm. Ako’s mother was twice as big as a house-cat. She stepped so lightly the palm never moved at all. She looked like a silver ghost running along in the moonlight.

Ako wanted to play. Ako played tag with his mother’s tail.
“This enchanting and ravishingly illustrated little book about some of the world’s most beautiful and endangered creatures cannot fail to captivate its readers, young and old.”

Dr. Ian Tattersall, Curator, Division of Anthropology, American Museum of Natural History

“Ako the Aye-Aye is a delightful visual feast and scientific confection about a rare forest and its even rarer inhabitants in Madagascar. Lucky children to have science and conservation delivered in such an appealing way, and the adults will love it too!”

Dr. George Amato, Director, Genetic Research and Senior Conservation Biologist, Wildlife Conservation Society

“The Ako story will help school children better understand the rare Aye-Aye and inspire them to love and protect them at Tampolo. In addition, gaining access to Malagasy books in rural Madagascar is difficult so this publication will be most useful in environmental education.”

Dr. Joëlisoa Ratsirarson, Director, Tampolo Field Station, ESSA-Forêts, University of Antananarivo

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