



Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal: A Worldwide Cinderella

Paul Fleischman , Julie Paschkis (Illustrator)

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Once upon a time, in Mexico . . . in Ireland . . . in Zimbabwe . . . there lived a girl who worked all day in the rice fields . . . then spent the night by the hearth, sleeping among the cinders.

Her name is Ashpet, Sootface, Cendrillon . . . Cinderella. Her story has been passed down the centuries and across continents. Now Paul Fleischman and Julie Paschkis craft its many versions into one hymn to the rich variety and the enduring constants of our cultures.

A Junior Library Guild Selection

Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal: A Worldwide Cinderella is a 2008 Bank Street - Best Children's Book of the Year.

Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal: A Worldwide Cinderella Details

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Author : Paul Fleischman , Julie Paschkis (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal: A Worldwide Cinderella for online ebook

Abby says

I really loved how the author combined lots of different countries' versions of the Cinderella story to create one strongly woven version. Also the great folk-art illustrations don't hurt.

Danielle says

This book is brilliant! It tells the story of Cinderella, but with each line from a different country's version! We get the whole story, in a way a more whole story, with all these wonderful region-specific details. Wonderful.

Nate says

Another one of the versions of the classic Cinderella, this version was something very enjoyable. I must admit, I am not expert on all that is Cinderella, so I don't have much to compare it to, but from my unbiased perspective, this story was one that I believe could truly catch and more importantly keep the attention of young students. All of the different animals and what not helping her to get to the ball make for an underlying theme of the beautiful nature of animals in the world. Another one of those themes in this quick read is the idea to be nice! Look how being nice can get someone such a long way... All the way to the kingdom possibly! Last but not least, the beautiful, elegant pictures that are illustrated throughout this book is great. While the reading is quick, stopping and observing the pictures is something that readers will most likely do without instruction. The only thing that I could have asked for is some more story. I was into it, so a bit more of the product is my only critique. A great read for 2nd grade and down.

N_carlyl says

In my opinion, there is no better way to teach our students how alike yet different the many cultures of the world are, than by reading this story.

In this colorful tale, we read the story of a young girl who works hard to cook and clean and is treated unfairly by her stepmother and stepsisters. When the prince hosts a royal ball to find his queen, the young girl is forbidden to attend because her looks and clothing will cause her stepmother and sisters humiliation. The poor girl only wishes to attend the royal ball and depending on the setting of the page, either a fairy, Godfather Snake, or Auntie grants her the ability to attend the ball by giving her the finest clothing, carriage, and shoes according to the country the author is referring to. When the magical night is coming to an end and the young girl must leave the ball, she loses a glass slipper, diamond anklet, or sandal of gold that the prince finds and keeps as his only connection to his future queen. As the story progresses, it ends the way all little girls want it to: happily ever after. However, the best part of the ending to a teacher, is the way the author describes all the different wedding traditions from around the world and that no matter what the backdrop is,

the story of, what we know best as Cinderella, is still told today.

This story can be used as a read aloud for grades 2-5. In my opinion, once the story, no matter the version, of Cinderella has been read and critically discussed a few times, than this story will be easier to understand. Older students may also use this book as a model of a different style of rewriting familiar stories. The students would have to not only research different places but they'd have to show how the cultures can be intertwined through the use of a well known text.

Cheryl says

Did you know that the Cinderella story originated in China in the 9th century? The story has been passed to many countries and has been altered somewhat to fit each culture. Over 1,000 versions exist today! In this beautifully illustrated book, many of these versions (from Ireland, Japan, Iraq, India, Zimbabwe, Poland , France, Germany and more) have been interwoven to present a unique version of Cinderella! It's a fascinating retelling which exposes children to a rich multicultural fairytale experience!

Lauren says

This book beautifully interwove versions of Cinderella told around the world (specifically, from Mexico, Korea, Iraq, India, Ireland, Zimbabwe, Germany, Appalachia, Laos, Russia, Indonesia, China, Japan, France, West Indies, Poland, Iran and Korea). As author Paul Fleischman writes in the author's note "traveling across the globe, it changed its clothes but not its essence" for "rivalry, injustice, and the dream of wrongs righted are universal." The overall story of Cinderella is unchanging, although details are integrated from each country that make this book very unique. Each portion of the story (whether is be two paragraphs or a small portion of a sentence) is surrounded by a color-coded traditional pictorial of what is happening and the overall setting, this, along with the label, makes it easy to keep track of the details that make that telling unique to a specific country. I particularly loved that Cinderella's appearance changed based on the country she was being featured in. I do feel that it would be important if this was being used in a classroom that this book is being presented as traditional literature because I fear students may stereotype based on the illustrations. Overall, I feel that this book would be a wonderful addition to any unit on traditional literature in grades K-4 as well as a great introduction to writing at any level (a great mentor text to show that strong themes are universal).

Agn? says

What a cool introduction to folklore from different cultures! Paul Fleischman's worldwide Cinderella retelling is pieced together from paragraphs, sentences, and even phrases borrowed from different Cinderella retellings that originated in seventeen distinct regions around the world, all of which are conveniently mapped on the endpapers:

According to the illustrator's bio on the back flap of the dust jacket, in her illustrations for this book, Julie

Paschkis “drew on the folk art traditions of different countries,” especially “traditional textiles.” For instance, the backgrounds for the inset illustrations and text boxes are color-coded and decorated with culture-specific motifs:

However, the cultural differences in Paschkis’s illustrations could have been more apparent if there was any variation in the artist’s style or media throughout the book.

Adam Nicholson says

The author's note discusses stories change to match their surroundings. In this Cinderella story, we follow (more or less) the plot of the classic version of the tale. The only change is that each page, or page section is labeled with a country and illustrated to match the culture. In addition, cultural language is used that is unique to the countries referenced. The most impactful part of the story is not the cultural diversity, but rather, how a traditional story binds together many cultures to focus on a similarity. Some of the strongest moments were when the author put the same part of the story, but written through the lenses of several different cultures. The title of the book is an example. "...glass slippers (France)...diamond anklets (India)...sandals of gold (Iraq). The beauty in this is that meaning is not lost in the telling of the story. It still has all of the components of traditional literature and follows the classic Cinderella story.

In a classroom, I would use this with upper elementary as an introduction to traditional literature to show that the stories are known throughout the world and have been around for a long time. Another possible use could be reading Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal after sharing several different versions of Cinderella from other countries. In this case, it would blend everything together.

Source: DAWCL

Eunice says

My school librarians helped me locate this book amongst the folktale and fairytale section in our school library. This book has won the BELA award and the NSSTB award. The author comprised different versions of the Cinderella story from all over the world. I would use this story with 3rd - 5th grade students as part of a compare and contrast lesson. Students can compare the international versions of Cinderella in this book to the traditional Cinderella story. Students can also participate in a "notice and wonder" activity by studying the illustrations in the story. One thing that I noticed was that with the exception of countries like Zimbabwe and Iran where the women were illustrated wearing head wraps, the majority of the illustrations of Cinderella were of young looking women with long flowing hair. Students can also look for other images in the illustrations to notice and wonder about.

Eva Leger says

I enjoyed this more than Julia. She liked it because of the Cinderella aspect, I liked it because of that and

everything else.

I wouldn't go so far as to say it worked out perfectly. I think maybe it could even be done again and turn out better. I don't know.

I liked the thought of cutting and splicing and pasting parts of the story together. It really did turn out okay here but I'm curious as to what another author could possibly with it.

Jaclyn Giordano says

Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal: A Worldwide Cinderella, by Paul Fleischman, is a picture book intended for readers in preschool through grade three. I gave it four stars. In this tale, a beautiful young girl, “gentle-eyed and good-hearted,” laboriously works under the wrath of her evil stepmother. However, magical creatures adorn this young girl with beautiful clothing and transport her to the king’s ball, where she and the king ultimately fall in love and live as an “adoring couple in such a wondrous turn of events.” This story, told artistically and creatively by Fleishman, is a combination of different cultural versions of Cinderella tales from throughout the world. Bits of countries’ stories, from Ireland to the West Indies to Iraq and everywhere in between, are pieced together to create one, culturally diverse Cinderella story. The illustrations, colorful and rich, are adorned with the country name whose piece is being told on that page of text. The illustrations take up the complete page, creating a wallpaper of sorts. Each illustration depicts the young lady in its own cultural and diverse way—different clothing, different physical features, different setting. This beautiful story teaches readers that, no matter the country of origin or how the young lady looks or where she grew up, she is rewarded with love because of her kind and giving nature. All over the world, this story is told, with its own cultural flair, teaching readers young and old that we all are connected and can share in the power of one truly inspirational and influential story. Text knows no cultural boundaries—it transcends all.

Paige says

Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal: A Worldwide Cinderella, written by Paul Fleischman and illustrated by Julie Paschkis is the Irish version of Cinderella. It is the Mexican version of Cinderella. It is the Korean, Indian, Russian and more versions of Cinderella woven into one story that invites the reader on a journey across the world. The story of Cinderella is told with each page being dedicated to one, two, or three countries' versions of that part of the story.

My favorite part is the page describing Cinderella's shoes, with simple illustrations to go along with each description.

France "And on the girl's feet appeared a pair of glass slippers...

India "...diamond anklets...

Iraq "...sandals of gold."

While I enjoyed reading the different versions all woven into one cohesive story, I was a little disappointed with the illustrations. I felt that with so many countries being represented in the book, the illustrations could have depicted the uniqueness of each nation more. Each page contained a background print with a smaller illustration on top. While the background prints were representative of each country, I felt they took away from the illustrations that went along with the text on the page.

Overall, I liked the book and would enjoy reading it to my students. I could see reading this book aloud and

then asking each student to choose one of the versions represented in the book to research. The whole class could find and read Cinderella stories from countries around the world and share their findings with each other.

Anna Reid says

Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal: A Worldwide Cinderella written by Paul Fleischman and illustrated by Julie Paschkis which was recognized by the Notable Books for a Global Society (NBGS) organization in 2008. This story takes the original Cinderella and applies a twist to it where the story is told as it would be in many different countries like Korea, Iraq, Mexico, Russia, Iran, India and Ireland to name a few. The uniqueness of this book is the fact that it portrays the story through many different cultures. When the author is discussing the glass slipper in France, he includes that in India it would be, “diamond anklets” and in Iraq the shoe would be “sandals of gold” (Fleischman, 12). The format that the book is written in is appealing to the reader because no matter where you are from you are able to experience the story in the way it would take place in your culture, while also learning what it would be like in other cultures. This gives the reader an opportunity to reflect and respond to the story in many different ways. A child could try to interpret one of their favorite stories by learning about other countries in order to retell the story as it would be in another country. The story is rich in details about other cultures, for example when the daughter marries the King, at their feast the guests ate, “mangoes and melons” in Zimbabwe, “rice seasoned with almonds” in India and “beef stew and lamb stew” in Ireland (Fleischman, 32). The accuracy in this book is unknown due to the fact that the author did not refer to any sources. However, if you were to research the different clothing attire and food consumed in other countries you would find that the author was accurate in his writing. This book is recommended for those in grades 2-4.

Fleischman, P., & Paschkis, J. (2007). *Glass slipper, gold sandal: A worldwide Cinderella*. New York, NY: Henry Holt and.

L12_sarah says

"A chameleon changes color to match its surroundings. Stories do the same."

Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal: A Worldwide Cinderella tells the story of Cinderella as seen through the eyes of various countries around the world. The author, Paul Fleischman, blends the different versions of this classic story into one seamless tale. In so doing, he unites the world through one story, creating not just a multicultural work, but a global one. Those who love the story of Cinderella will take delight in this telling that reveals how much storytelling is shaped by the culture it comes from. Because it simultaneously celebrates the small differences and oneness of the Cinderella stories found in Mexico, Korea, Iraq, Russia, Iran, India, Ireland, Zimbabwe, Germany, Appalachia (U.S.), Laos, Indonesia, Japan, China, France, the West Indies and Poland, *Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal* makes readers see that despite our differences, all cultures share in a similar human experience.

The illustrations by Julie Paschkis add to the global quality of this text. The colorful backgrounds noticeably shift with each culture (through color and content), but still retain similar features and an overall similar style throughout the book. The central image on each page is reminiscent of folk art that has been passed down through the generations and is wonderful in its detailed simplicity.

This book could be enjoyed by readers of all ages (from PreK-adult), but would be most enjoyed by young children (grades 2-5) who know the traditional story of Cinderella (the French version that is heard in most of the Western world) and could thus benefit the most from comparing the French version to this global adaptation.

Matt says

It is always exciting to see the different versions of stories that appear, especially fairy tales that receive their own 'international' twist. This story tells of Cinderella, but uses excerpts from different versions told around the world. Some know her to have a fairy godmother while others purport that a great alligator helped find her a sarong. Even the events at court differ greatly. However, no matter who tells the story or how long ago it was created, each version does reach the climax when Cinderella and her true love meet and fall desperately in love, leaving the step-family behind. Neo enjoyed this as a bedtime story and asked if we could find complete versions of some of the other international tales. And so... I am on the lookout.
