



Pecos Bill: A Tall Tale

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"The anecdotes associated with Texas's fabled cowboy hero burst from the pages in rapid succession, Kellogg's robust illustrations enlarging and enriching the energetic text."—School Library Journal. "A read-aloud treat....One of Kellogg's best."—Booklist.

Pecos Bill: A Tall Tale Details

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Author : Steven Kellogg

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From Reader Review Pecos Bill: A Tall Tale for online ebook

Keri Rohr says

Pecos Bill is a tall tale appropriate for grades 3-4. I have never heard this tale before and it is very interesting. Some of the elements in this story are very weird and very unrealistic. Although the book was interesting, it is not my favorite tale to read.

Isabellg says

I thought it was funny when he squeezed the snake

Austin W says

i love that he grew up with wolves it is very funny and everyone should read it

Mckinley says

Not my favorite version.

Jamie.C says

i love it so much it makes me want to read it again

Cody says

Not as solid as Paul Bunyan, but the art is still lights-out.

Morgan Kusler says

The story of Pecos Bill is a tall tale in which a lost child is raised by coyotes and goes on all sorts of fantastical adventures throughout Texas. Pecos Bill can be grouped as a tall tale, displaying many of the genre elements of the category. The first genre element shown is the active use of hyperbole and exaggeration throughout the story. Events such as Bill chasing his horse Lightning through the Arctic Circle and to the bottom of the Grand Canyon, and Bill's wife 'Slewfoot Sue' being bucked off of Lightning and traveling all the way to the moon are clear examples of drastic exaggerations adding a mystical element to the story. The second genre element shown is the idea of Pecos Bill, the Hell's Gulch Gang, and the other

characters throughout the story being a representative collective of old west cowboys, having invented several objects and activities associated with cowboys, such as lassos and rodeos over the course of the story. Concerns about the reading of folklore stories in general come from fear of inappropriate aspects of these stories which may set a bad example for, or scare kids. In many of these stories, violence comes from a place of necessity in order to defeat the evil. In *Pecos Bill*, violence is used in a similar manner, but only rarely is violence actually utilized to drive the story. The event of Bill fighting the giant rattlesnake, which ends in Bill squeezing all of the venom out of him until he is long and skinny before using him as a lasso, is the most violence which happens in the story, as most other confrontations end in Bill befriending or non-violently taming the other adversaries he comes across. The lack of intense violence and even death in the story provide leeway for being used as a book for younger children without having to worry about the concerns associated with these types of books.

In a classroom I think *Pecos Bill* could easily be worked into the language arts curriculum for elementary students of various ages. For younger students, the book could be used to explain the concept of folktales and how they are used to share stories and ideas about where things came from. For older students, *Pecos Bill* could be used to teach the literary devices of exaggeration and hyperbole by demonstrating the way the book explains events/items and how they cannot occur in real life, and are instead used to show emphasis. Overall, I think *Pecos Bill* would be a useful tool in an elementary classroom.

Brooklyn says

This was part of the traditional stories unit in El 230. I have never been a huge fan of traditional tales, but this one was entertaining! I had never heard it told before, so it was more intriguing to me.

midnightfaerie says

A book my 6 yr old as well as my twin 3 yr olds loved. A solid reading level 1 book, this cute story keeps all ages engaged with the bright colorful pictures and cute story. A great addition to any children's library.

Brenna Shull says

I love the illustrations throughout the whole book. This tall tale is one I grew up knowing some but not the full story. I love the details and how well the illustrations tell the story. It also demonstrated what the western world looked like before more people settled in the area. For children who grew up in the mid west this story would be beneficial in demonstrating what the west is like and what people did in the past.

Jessica says

Set against the background of the American Old West, comes *Pecos Bill – a tall tale retold and illustrated* By Steven Kellogg. This book is a round-up of tall tales about Pecos Bill, an integral character in American mythology. Raised by coyotes, he used a rattle snake as a lasso, tackled a canyon creature, fought off Hell's

Gulch Gang, roped a giant bull, tamed and rode a horse named Lightning – the fastest, most beautiful horse in the world, and met and married Slew-Foot Sue. Illustrated in Kellogg's signature style, *Pecos Bill* gives children an intro to the Old West through one of its most exciting figures. The book has a dynamic cover and a fun map on the end papers to trace Pecos Bill's adventures.

Emily says

Pecos Bill is a very interesting Tall Tale. To be honest, I am pretty shocked that I have never experienced any versions of this story before. Nevertheless, I was very amused with this rendition through the exaggerated wrestling the venom out of a snake to inventing steers with shorter legs on one side. I also loved the illustrations presented alongside Kellogg's retelling. The illustrations were very descriptive and related well with the text.

However, I did have one slight bit of confusion. This could be due to the fact that I am not versed in this tall tale, but I feel as if the transitions were rather rough. The one that really threw me for a loop was when Bill met Stewfoot Sue because it seemed extremely abrupt. The story felt like it was coming to a close when this piece was thrown in. Although I felt uneasy, I still understood that it was used to help tie the events together into a heartwarming ending.

In the end, I can see why this would be fun to share with children.

Jensen Visser says

This a really fun and interesting tall tale. I think this would be really interesting to use in a classroom setting for older kids. I like the exaggeration through out the book because it would really get the kids thinking and using their imagination. The story itself is a little cheesy but I like that it would be a really good book to use as a break and for some fun in the classroom. I wish there was some more/better vocab words through out the book, but overall this is a good book. I also enjoyed that this book focuses on self-confidence and hard work. Both of these are very good lessons to teach elementary students as they are learning and growing.

Evelyn says

I love Steven Kellogg's retelling of this tall tale, and he has great illustrations that help tell the story.

Bailey Sulfridge says

In this retelling of Pecos Bill the tale of how roping cattle and rodeos began is told. Bill, a young boy, is crossing the plains with his family in a covered wagon. After throwing out a fishing line while crossing the Pecos River, hence the name Pecos Bill, Bill is yanked overboard by an enormous fish. Carried downstream by the rushing river Bill is saved by a coyote who raises him in his coyote family. It's not until Bill encounters a man and is convinced he is a human that he leaves his coyote family. Bills first encounter, with a larger than life rattlesnake, ends with Bill squeezing all the poison out of the snake until the snake is as thin

as a rope. Within moments of this first encounter Bill is tackled by a beast as large as a grizzly bear, when he lassos the beast with the snake and wrestles him to the ground his reputation is set. Cattle roping had now been invented! This tale of a larger than life character tackling larger than life issues epitomizes the classic folktale. Rich in detail, elegant in nature, the colorful illustrations in this edition fill the page and entertain.
