



Jack and the Beanstalk

By Steven Kellogg



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Join young Jack as he climbs a giant beanstalk to a magic castle in the clouds. Meet a hen that lays golden eggs and a harp that sings by itself. And don't forget the ogre. A classic fairy tale with a vigorous look that will leave you chanting "Fee-fi-fo-fum!"



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Jack and the Beanstalk By Steven Kellogg Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Though his text remains true to the popular version of this English fairy tale, Kellogg's (Paul Bunyan ; Pecos Bill) typically antic art gives this rendition a visual dimension that is uniquely his. Created with colored inks, watercolors and acrylics, the full-page illustrations have extraordinary texture and dimension. With a mouthful of pointy teeth and warts covering his scaly green face, Kellogg's villain is a truly horrid fellow who may in fact be a wee bit scary for fainthearted little ones--it's easy to believe that this giant eats little boys for breakfast. Slightly less menacing (though hardly comely) is his wife, who wears a necklace of tiny skeletons and hides Jack from her hungry husband. The pictures' variegated gold and bronze hues effectively cast an ominous glow over the ogre's palace. The art also features diverting details that youngsters may miss the first time around, which is one of many good reasons to read this book more than once. All ages.

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From School Library Journal

Kindergarten-Grade 3-- Kellogg has streamlined Joseph Jacobs's version of the classic story, keeping much of its vigorous language. In the illustrations he has provided a story within a story. On the front endpapers, the ogre steals the gold, harp, and hen from pirates as a wizard floating by in a hot-air balloon watches; this has the effect of enlightening readers about some of the moral ambiguities of the story. The wizard is shown writing down the actual events that follow and provides Jack with the beans that set them all in motion.

Kellogg's riotous, swirling pen is perfect for the energy of the tale; this is not the neat, contained English countryside of some previous editions. The ogre is toothy, warty, and a rather putrid yellow-green. His wife breaks the mold as well; she is tall and slim, fond of lipstick, and adorned in a necklace of skeletal shrunken heads. Colored inks, watercolors and acrylics throughout are similar in palette to Kellogg's recent work--lots of orange, yellow, and green--at times bordering on the garish. There are many humorous touches to delight children, who will also be happy to see Pinkerton accompanying the princess's entourage. Jack himself is irresistible. While many single-volume illustrated fairy tales have oversaturated the market, there should be plenty of room for this author/artist's extremely satisfying Jack and the Beanstalk . --Leda Schubert, Vermont Department of Education, Montpelier

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From Kirkus Reviews

Not a retelling, but a slightly pruned rendition of Joseph Jacobs's classic--the flavor is retained, with no vital omissions (though some of the drama is transferred from the verbal to the pictorial), but some transitions seem abrupt. Kellogg's illustrations are grand: characters are broadly depicted, from a wide-eyed Jack to a truly gruesome ogre with just a hint of Pinkerton to keep him from being too scary; the story's dramatic side is elaborated with gusto (dark shadows in the heroic-scale castle) and leavened with Kellogg trademarks (e.g., a quartet of affectionate cats); the creatively boxed text is unusually well integrated with the illustrations. An excellent introduction to a favorite. (Folklore/Picture book. 4-10) -- *Copyright ©1991, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Esther Price:

Why don't make it to become your habit? Right now, try to ready your time to do the important act, like looking for your favorite guide and reading a reserve. Beside you can solve your condition; you can add your knowledge by the book entitled Jack and the Beanstalk. Try to make the book Jack and the Beanstalk as your pal. It means that it can to become your friend when you really feel alone and beside that course make you smarter than in the past. Yeah, it is very fortunated for yourself. The book makes you a lot more confidence because you can know everything by the book. So , let's make new experience and also knowledge with this book.

Robert Zamora:

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Wayne Kong:

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