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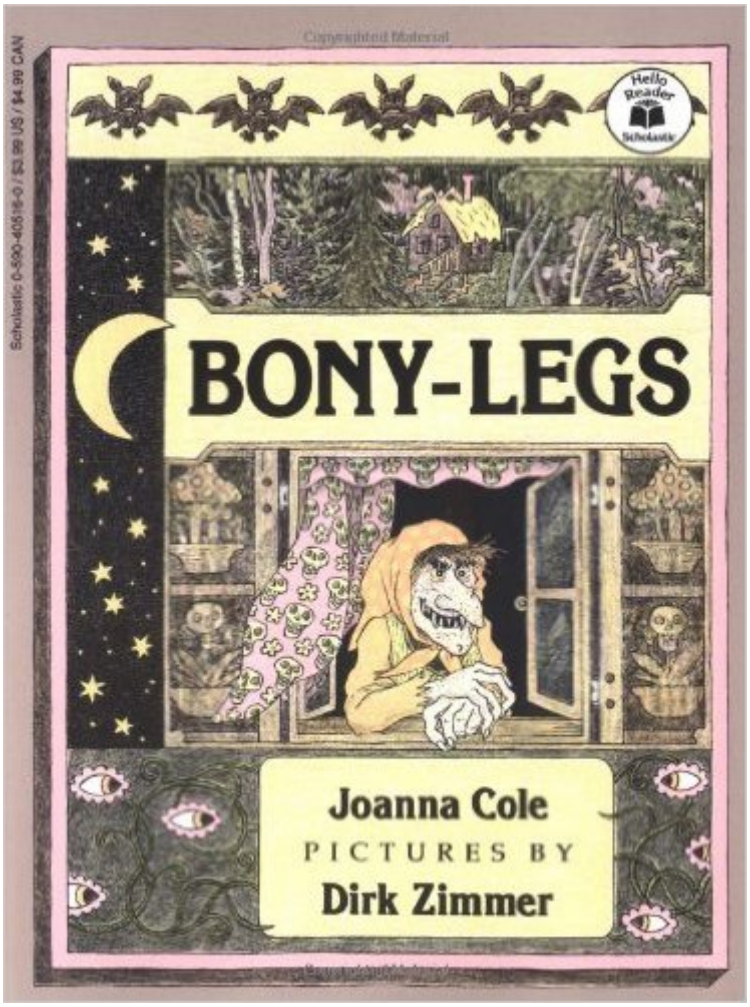
Bony-Legs



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Synopsis

When a terrible witch vows to eat her for supper, a little girl escapes with the help of a mirror and comb given to her by the witch's cat and dog.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 370L (What's this?)

Paperback: 48 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Inc. (1983)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0590405160

ISBN-13: 978-0590405164

Product Dimensions: 8.2 x 6 x 0.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (87 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #81,574 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > European #1567 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Chapter Books & Readers > Beginner Readers #2925 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy & Magic

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

My youngest child has been afraid of the dark, strange noises, and the unknown for a long long time. At age 6 he discovered this book, and read it again and again.This surprised me at first - it's a lot like Hansel and Gretel but for a small child, boy or girl, who is dealing with the scariness of the real world, Bony-Legs is a story that's scary but encouraging. What goes around will come around, is the message this book gives.Sasha's aunt (her mother never would have done such a thing!) sends her to Bony-Leg's house in the woods to fetch a needle and thread.Along the way, Sasha is kind to a hungry cat and a skinny dog, feeding them her lunch. She greases a creaking gate at the entrance to Bony-Leg's cottage."Poor gate," said Sasha, "You need some grease." Once she gets to Bony-Leg's, she's locked in the bathroom, told to get nice and clean so Bony-Legs can eat her up. The cat, the dog she fed on her way to Bony-Leg's give her a mirror, a wooden comb and let her escape without a mew or a bark. The kindly oiled gate lets her out without a squeak.With the help of these others, and the use of her own cleverness in figuring out how to use the mirror and the comb,

Sasha escapes. And Bony-Legs - well, you'll have to read the story to find out all the details!An enjoyable, short read filled with color pictures and a kind child's cleverness.

If you have a child named Sasha then I strongly suggest that you give her this book. It was one of my all-time favorites as a child and I think my mother donated the book to my elementry school library (that how much it meant to me). There are many books with Marys, Elizabeths, Janes...but a Sasha book is hard to come by. Rave review!!

I loved Bony-Legs when I was a girl!Now that I'm grown, I've passed it along to my 7-year-old daughter, Lulu.Bony-Legs is an adaptation from an old Russian story. There are similarities to other children's witch tales, however, this one is in and of itself very unique.Bony-Legs is a lonely, hungry witch who lives deep in the forest. She likes to feast on children, but really needs for them to be clean first. Prior to being captured and during her final wash, Sasha unwittingly helps the dog, the cat and the gate that belong to Bony-Legs. As they have been deprived of loving care, they then betray Bony-Legs, aiding in her escape.Lu has read, and has had read to her, plenty of those other scary kids' witch stories. But Bony-Legs is one she reads even to her 6-year-old brother. The other night I overheard her saying "And what do you think happened with that mirror?" as she read it to him. They both love the story and all the twists. It's a fairy tale, really.Enjoy!!!!

If I had a quarter for every time I've read this book....(as I'm writing this I'm reciting the text--I think I have it memorized). To this day, high school students, college students, even the occasional cashier at Walmart will look up at me, smile, and I'll know I'm encountering one of my long ago elementary school storytimers all grown up. If we talk for longer than 45 seconds he or she will invariably bring up Bony Legs. This is one of those books that has all the right ingredients--It's a great read-aloud book--scary enough to make the children jump but not so scary that you'll get phone calls from parents. It has enough plot to be interesting and some decent characterization--a wicked witch who lives deep in the woods in a house that stood on chicken feet, a girl, Sasha, who has an adventure in those woods and manages to escape being eaten by Bony Legs because of her kindness to the dog, the cat, and the gate belonging to this witch. Joanna Cole wrote this story with an easy reader vocabulary, so children are able to go back to the book and read it to themselves. During a given school year Bony Legs always made at least two appearances during story time--sometimes three or four or more--depending on the demands of the children. It's as popular with children today as it was almost twenty years ago. Bony Legs is based upon the Baba

Yaga legends--folktales from Russia. I use this book to introduce the tale. A month or so later I'll read Eric Kimmel's Baba Yaga, which is longer and more detailed (it has a Cinderella-like component). The children will get so excited--"It's like Bony Legs!" they exclaim. Indeed. There are actually a number of versions of the Baba Yaga legends available in picture book format. I have put many of them in my storytime arsenal, but THIS one, hands down, is the ALL TIME FAVORITE with the children.

I read this book to my girls when they were young. Now my oldest daughter has 3 children of her own. We know that we never gave Bony-Legs away-but it has been missing somewhere in an unopened box from the move.. But ordered a new one because these girls were so excited when we would tell the story! It's a great story, not too scary for the young. But just scary enough to make them squeal with delight! You must get this book, especially around Halloween.

Thank-you! Thank-you! Thank-you!This was my favorite book as a child. The first bookI checked out from the library...I've searched for years to have a copy of my own, and having it in hardcover makes it seem even more special than the paperback I once held. As soon as I opened it I sat down and read the story to my son, scary witch voice and all. He enjoyed it too...it was wonderful to see his suprize and excitment over the parts in the story that were always my favorite as well. Thank-you! Whoever it belonged to and had to part with it, whoever took the time to package and send it, and whoever delivered it safely back into my life....Thank~you.

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