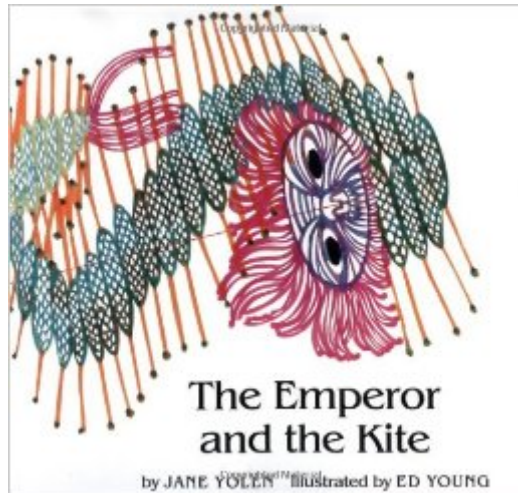


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# The Emperor And The Kite



## Synopsis

Princess Ojeow Seow, youngest and smallest daughter of the Emperor, is not thought of very much by her family--when thought of at all. So she spends her days playing with a kite made from paper and sticks. When the Emperor is captured and imprisoned in a high tower, though, it is Djeow Seow who patiently weaves a long, strong rope of her own hair, attaches it to the tail of her kite, and cleverly flies up to her father in hopes of rescuing him. Ed Young's brilliant full-color illustrations, which are based on an intricate traditional Oriental papercut technique, grace this tale by renowned storyteller Jane Yolen. Told in an easy-to-read yet sensitive and poetic style, it evokes the long-ago and far-away flavor of ancient China. At the heart of the story are the timeless qualities of love and loyalty. This newly designed edition of the classic *The Emperor and the Kite* joins the beauty of language and art so wondrously that readers of all ages will be enchanted.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD660L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Philomel Books; Reissue edition (April 5, 1988)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0399214992

ISBN-13: 978-0399214998

Product Dimensions: 9.6 x 0.4 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.3 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (10 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,226,760 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #89 in Â Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Asian #1194 in Â Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Multicultural #5266 in Â Books > Children's Books > Classics

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

Young's *The Emperor and the Kite* shows us that even (seemingly) small, insignificant individuals can accomplish great deeds and challenges us not to underestimate anyone's capabilities. The story, by Jane Yolen, takes place in ancient China and tells of a tiny princess, not much thought of by her family, who uses her intellect, creativity, and skill to save her father, the emperor, held hostage by kidnappers. The text of the story is lengthy (many pages have ten or more lines of text)

and more explanatory than descriptive. The illustrations, done in multi-colored paper cuts, bring the text to life, depicting the most dramatic moments of the story. The illustrations stretch across both pages and often bleed off the edge. Despite their exquisite detail, the illustrations are flat and float in the white space of the page, without any sense of depth or context.

I thought that this book was excellent. The artwork was wonderful, and the storyline was entertaining. What I liked most about the book though is the hero of the story. She is a tiny, little girl. This book provides a great role model for children in its hero. I highly recommend this book, as well as many of the author's other books, to anyone, child or adult. It's a great read.

When I ordered *Emperor and the Kite*, I already knew I loved the folktale. I saw it first as a teacher in the reading text, and knew I wanted it as a book on its own. I looked forward to that story every time we came to it in the text, and it was a favorite with my second and third grade students as well. It is a classic tale of strength, courage and loyalty in a small girl, which empowers children and assures them that there is a little bit of hero in all of us. She remains loyal to her father, even when her other larger and stronger siblings desert him, fleeing in the face of evil. Her father had always favored the others, so this was particularly noteworthy. In the end, he rewards her loyalty and learns that even if you are big and strong, without strength of character, you are useless. The story reminds me of *Mulan* in the way that the main female characters basically save China. Ed Young's illustrations are awesome as always.

This is a beautifully illustrated and written book. All ages will enjoy the story, the pictures, and the theme. Many extended, cross-cultural lessons can be designed to go with this book. We studied the history of kites, made kites and flew them, and the kids really enjoyed writing their own haiku poems about flying their kites. The illustrations are elegant, subtle, and gorgeous. A wonderful reading experience for all!

I never know if my 6 and 8 year old girls will like a book or not. This one they loved! The story involves a timeless theme of a daughter wanting her father's love. Flying kites is one way our family spends time together, so this really resonated with us. Our girls have asked me, or their dad, to read this to them repeatedly.

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